KCZ0167

緑の王

VERDANT LORD

1

原作／たかしげ宙
漫画／曽我篤士

講談社

それは植物たちの反乱だったのか？
突然世界を襲った"植物異常大繁殖"によって
地球はなすすべもなく緑に侵されてしまう。
それから十数年、細々と生き続けようとする人類を
あざ笑うかのように植物は地球を被いつつあった。
激変する世界は何を語ろうとしているのか？
国連の伐採部隊に参加するため
ニューヨークに渡った日本人・相馬真が遭遇した
異形の巨人・行動する植物とは一体!?

**重厚なスケールで描く
近未来アドベンチャー第1巻。**

マガジンZKC

緑の王

VERDANT LOAD

1

原作／たかしげ宙

漫画／曽我篤士

KCZ0157

マガジンZKC

緑の王

VERDANT LOAD

1

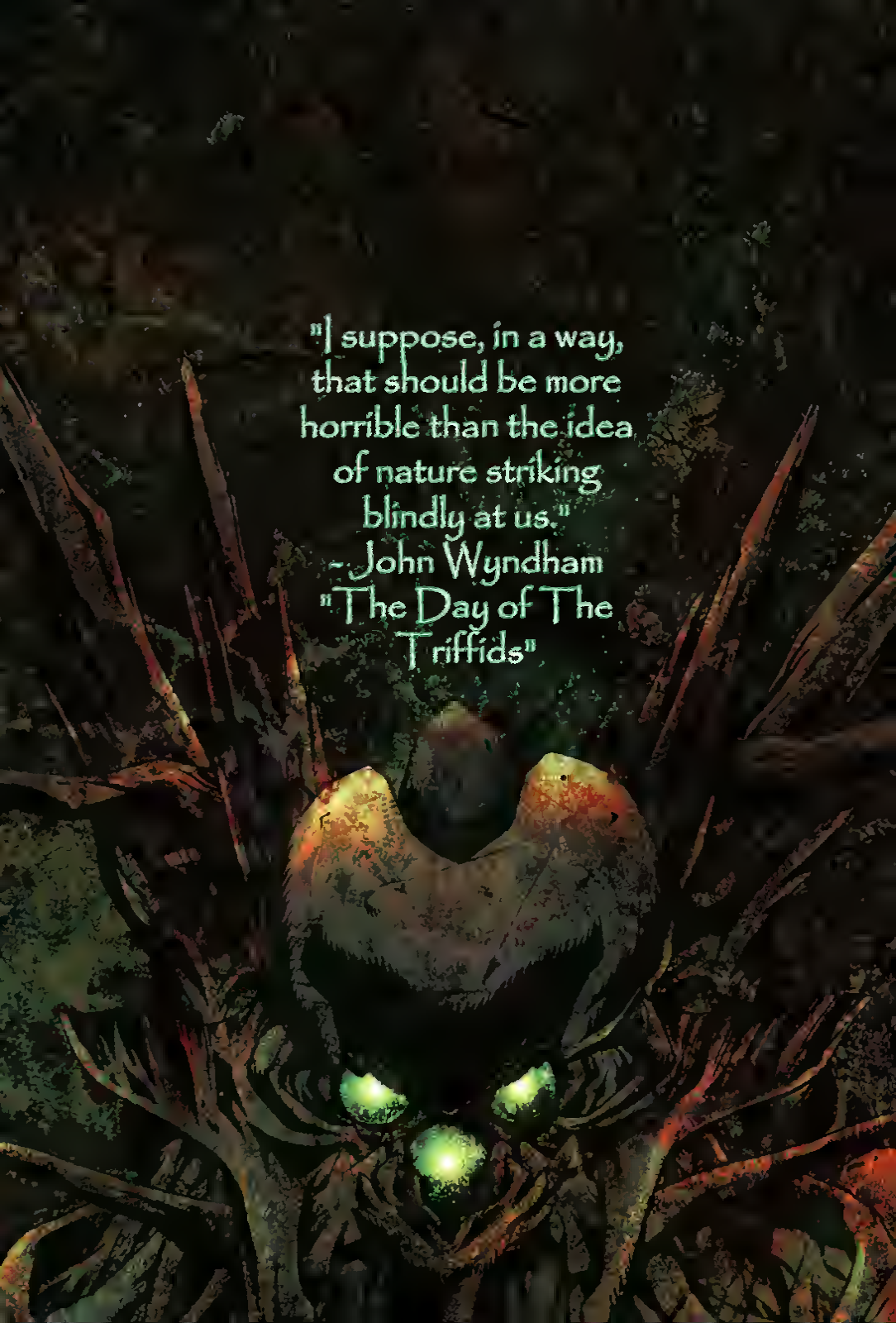
原作／たかしげ宙

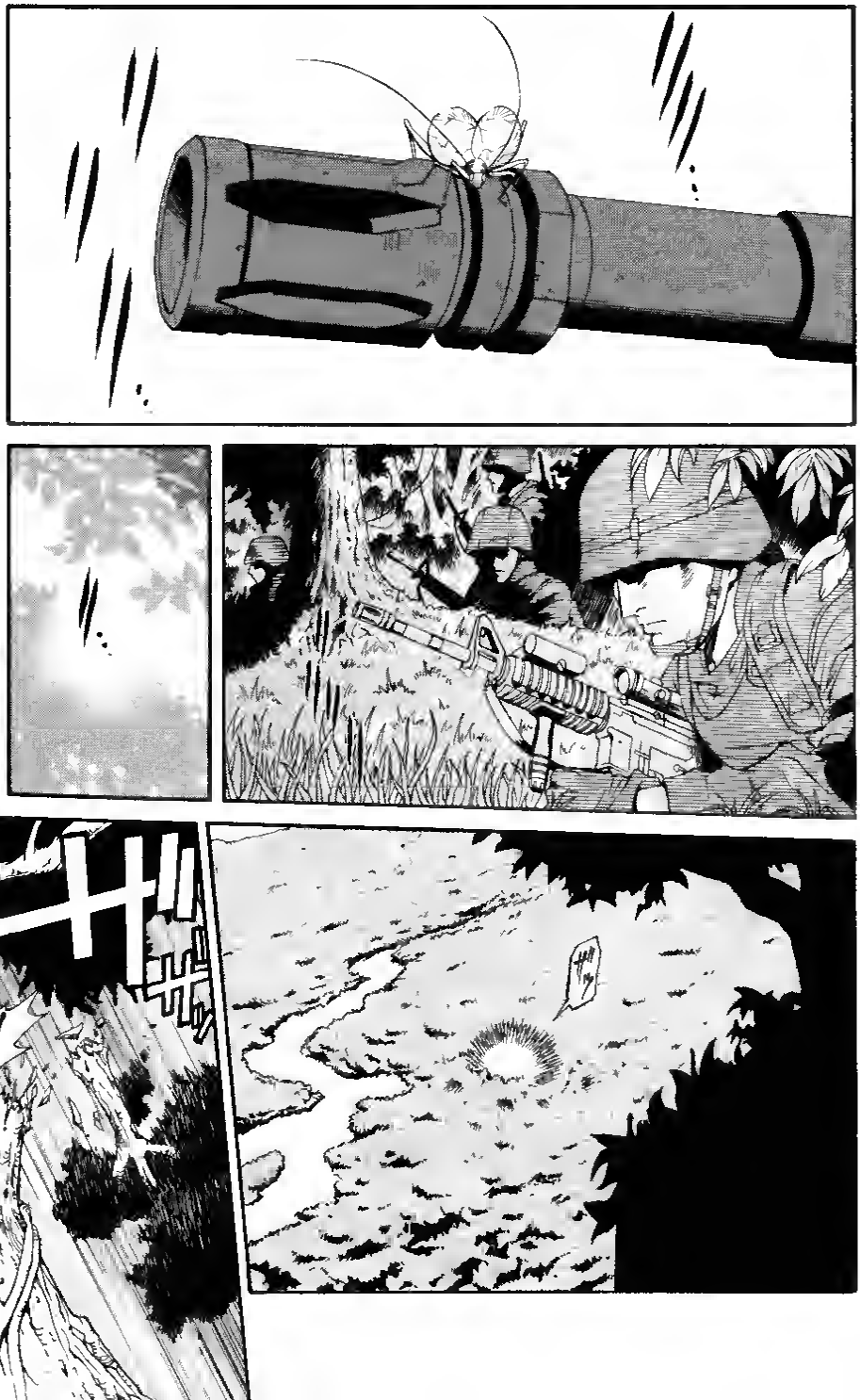
漫画／曽我篤士

講談社

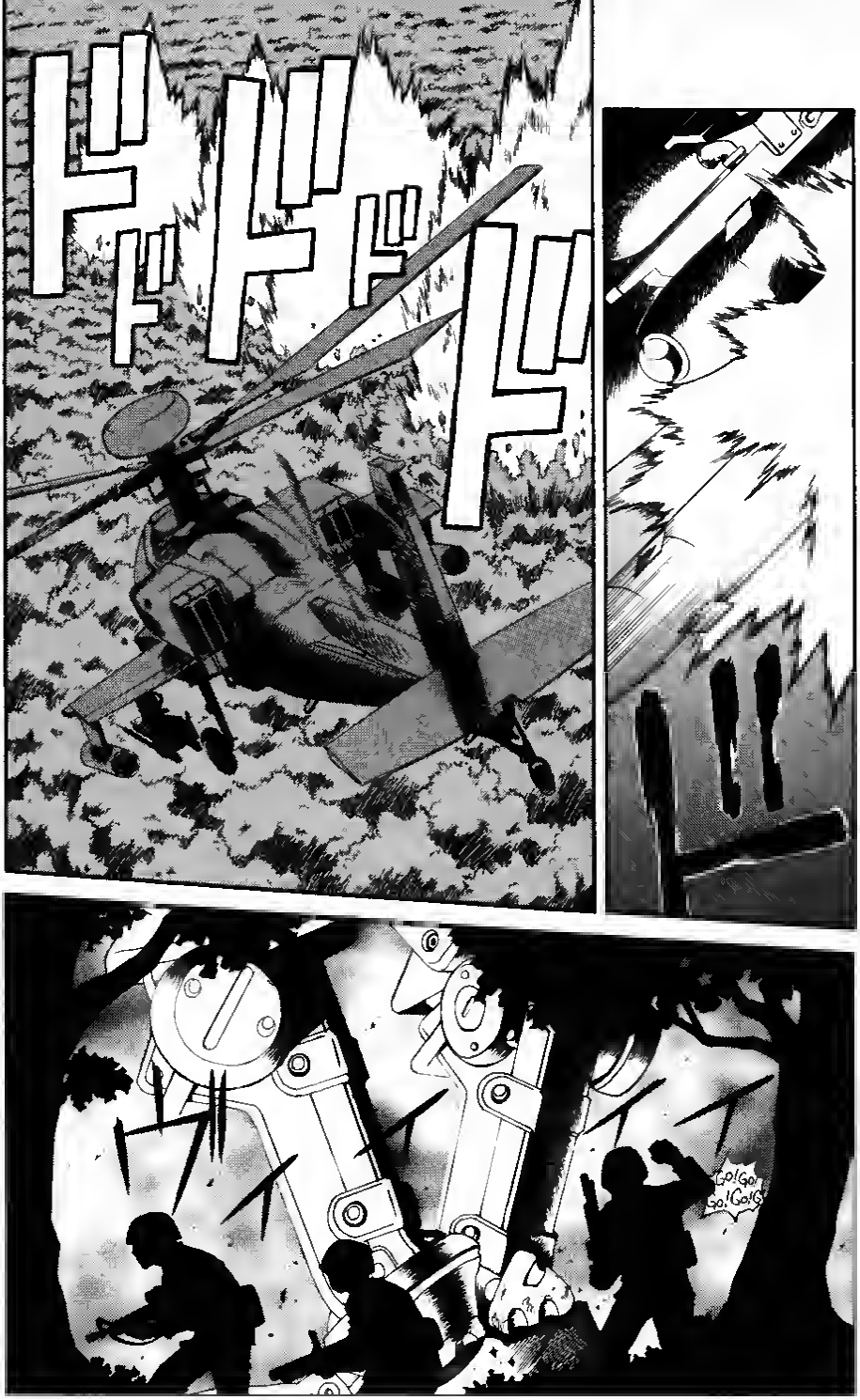
講談社

緑の王
みどり
おう
VERDANT LORD
1
設定／高野真吾
デザイン／福地仁
原作／たかしげ宙
漫画／曽我篤士


"I suppose, in a way, that should be more horrible than the idea of nature striking blindly at us."
~ John Wyndham
"The Day of The Triffids"


ヤバッ
バキッ

COMMENCING ATTACK


ドドドドド
Go!Go!
Go!Go!

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ザザ
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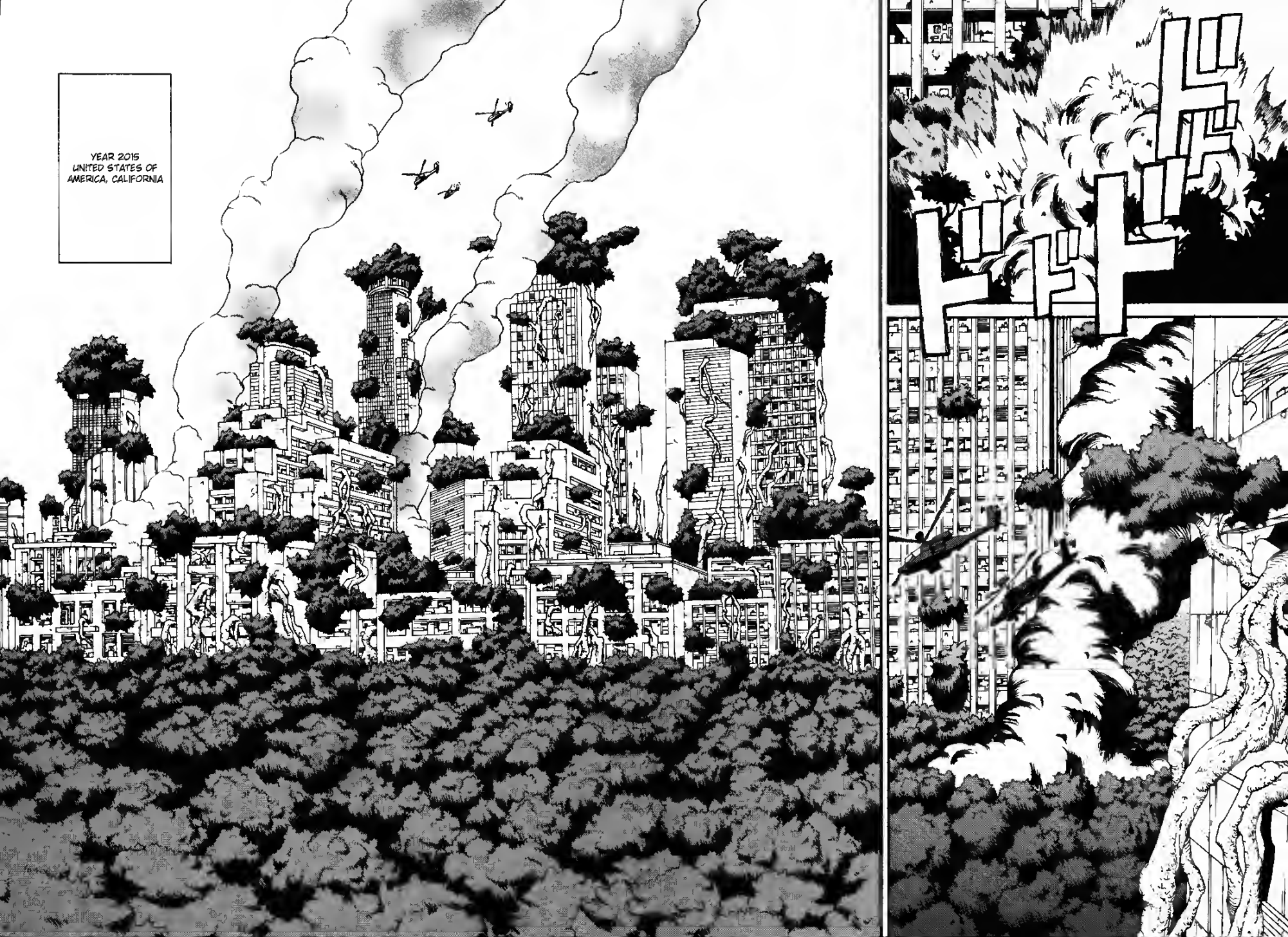
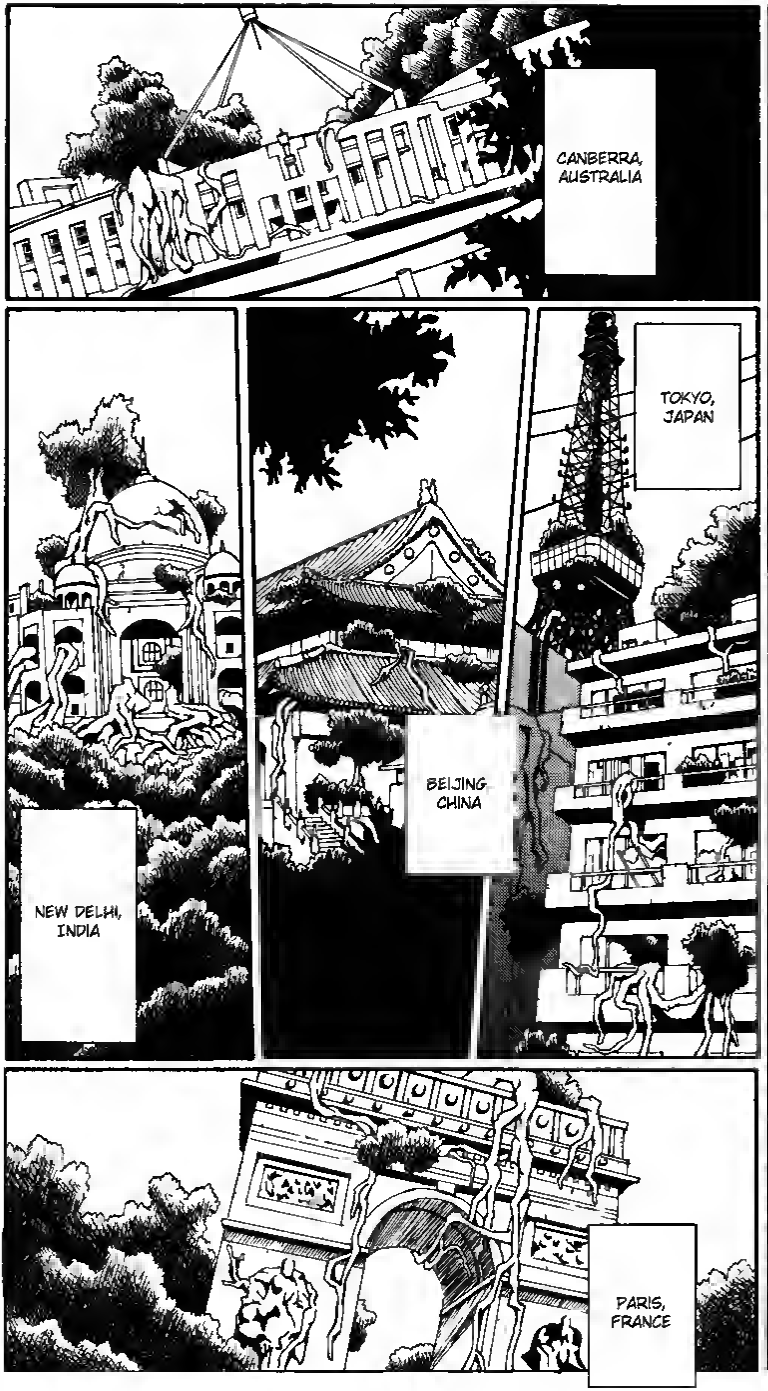
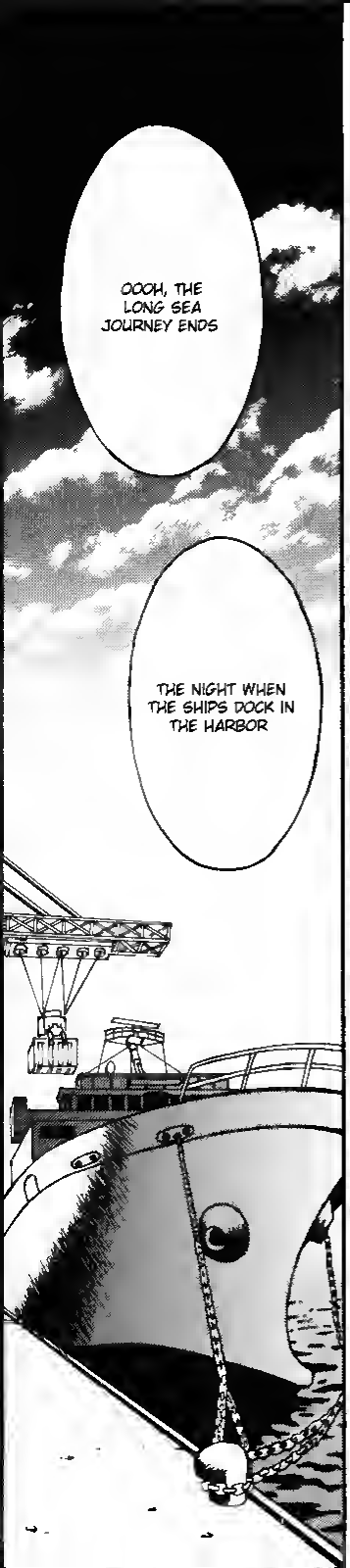
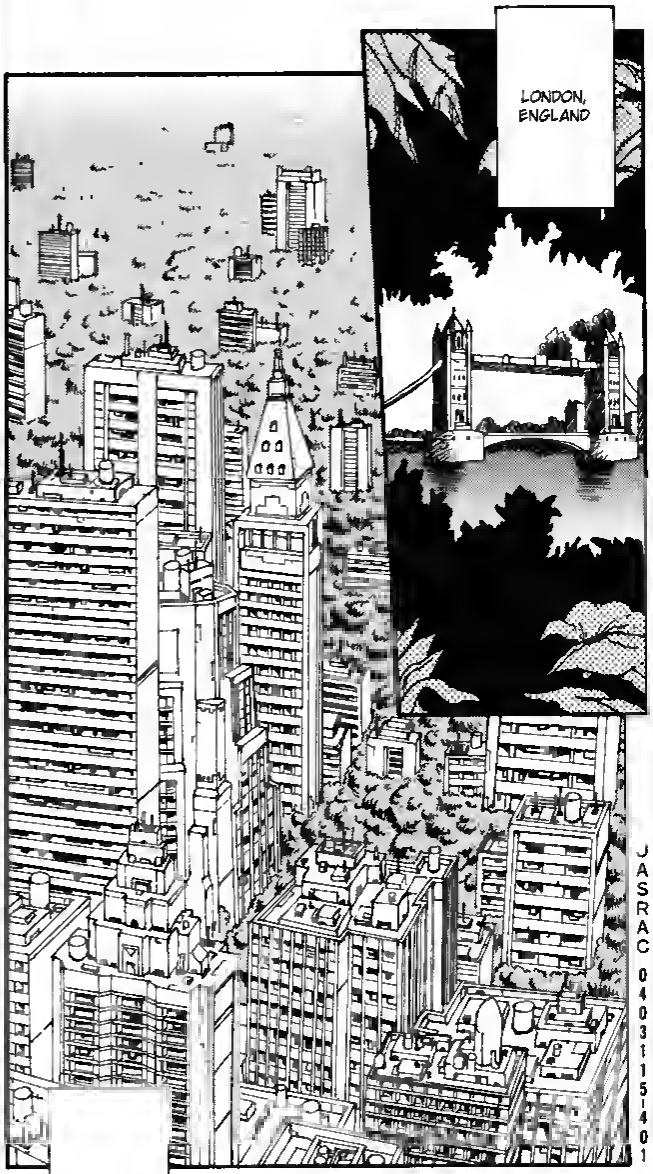
ドドドドド
Go!Go!
Go!Go!


YEAR 2015
UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA, CALIFORNIA
ドドド


CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA
NEW DELHI, INDIA
BEIJING CHINA
TOKYO, JAPAN
PARIS, FRANCE





JASRAC 0403151401

MEGALITH INDUSTRIES
HOW HUGE...
WITH A GLASS OF WINE AT THE SAILOR'S BAR..
EVERYONE FORGETS THE HARDSHIPS OF THE SEA.

JUST LIKE WE'VE TOLD EVERY TIME BEFORE, YOUR KIDS HAVE BEEN SENT FOR CHECKING AT A DIFFERENT TESTING FACILITY.
EVERYDAY, EVERYDAY, ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!!
DON'T FUCK WITH ME!!
GO HOME, GO HOME!
EVEN IF YOU PROTEST HERE, NOTHING'LL COME OF IT.
IS THIS WHAT YOU MEANT WHEN YOU SAID...
WHY CAN'T YOU EVEN TELL ME IF MY SISTER IS DOING WELL OR NOT!?
YOU'D TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR HER CARE!?

LI...
LIKE THE HELL WE'D DO THAT IF OUR PARENTS WERE ALIVE...!!
SHUT UP! AREN'T YOU THE ONES WHO CONSENTED TO THE TESTING!?
YOU'RE BLINDED BY MONEY!!
PLEASE, I BEG OF YOU! JUST THIS IS FINE, GIVE THIS TO DIINA!
LIWA, DON'T FUCKING TOUCH ME!
YOU!!
YOU HEAR!? THIS ISN'T A PLACE THAT PEOPLE LIKE YOU SHOULD BE COMING TO.
IF YOU GET IT THEN HURRY UP AND-
HM?

ワル
THIRTEEN'S AREA~~~ AAAH
AHH~~~ AHH~~~ HARBOR CITY~~~
ドッ
UP .. YOU GO, GET AHOLD OF YOURSELF!

OI, YOU GUYS.
Y... YOU!!
JUST BECAUSE YOU WERE HIRED BY A BIG COMPANY, DON'T SWAGGER AROUND SO MUCH.
IF YOU DON'T GET WHAT I'M SAYING TAKE A STEP FORWARD.
I WILL MAKE YOU UNDERSTAND.
HOW DO I SAY THAT...?
AHH, WAIT, ENGLISH.. ENG..
? ?
.....
?

……
レイ
YOU PUNK...!!!
ドドドド
ニヤ!!
ガッ

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ガッ
ALRIGHT, THAT'S IT.
COLONEL ...
COLONEL ...
SO YOU ARE THESE GUYS' BOSS HUH?
AREN'T YOU SLACKING IN THEIR DISPLINE?
.....

THEY AREN'T DIRECTLY UNDER ME, BUT.. WELL MY BAD.
BUT YOUR ACTIONS CAN'T EXACTLY BE CALLED CURTIOUS EITHER, CAN THEY?
SO YOU WERE WATCHING
LEAVE IT AT THAT,
EVEN IF YOU ARE SIBLINGS OF THE ONES INVOLVED, IT'D BE BOTHERSOME IF YOU DISTURB OUR OPERATION ANY FURTHER
YOU MIGHT LOOK BIG BUT...

AN-CHAN LITERALLY MEANS BRO BUT THE KIND THAT FRIENDS CALL EACH OTHER BY

DON'T GO TOO FAR,
HE'S FAMILY OF THE PARTICIPANTS
KNOCK
THERE IS A SOUMA SHIN HERE TO SEE SOUMA KEN

キィ
FLIP
THOUGH YOU ARE TWINS, YOU DON'T LOOK TOO MUCH ALIKE RIGHT NOW.
HE'S MY BROTHER IN JAPAN
...
SHIN, HUH
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
...IT'S BEEN THREE YEARS, AND YOU ARE TEASING ME ALREADY, BRO.
HAHA, I SEE, WE DON'T LOOK ALIKE AT ALL.

AND THEN? DID YOU COME TO AMERICA TO PICK FIGHTS?
IT WAS A DRAW FOR NOW. . IT'S NOT OVER YET!
DID YOU WIN?
DIDN'T EVEN COME HOME WHEN MOM DIED
I CAME TO DELIVER SOMETHING TO THE UNGRATEFUL BRAT THAT
STUFF

EVER SINCE "PLANT BURST" HAPPENED, BECAUSE THE LIFE LINE'S BEEN CUT, THE LIVING STANDARD OUTSIDE OF THE CAPTIAL ZONES IS BACK TO THE 19TH CENTURY.
SINCE YOU ARE SMART BRO YOU WENT TO AMERICA RIGHT AWAY, SO YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW, BUT, RIGHT NOW JAPAN'S POPULATION IS ONLY HALF OF WHAT IS WAS IN THE 20TH CENTURY.
....
YOU KNOW,
WHILE THIS COUNTRY HAS PLENTY OF LAND, THE LAST TEN YEARS HAVE BEEN TERRIBLE FOR JAPAN.
I WILL BE IN YOUR CARE FOR A WHILE.
I'VE COME INTENDING TO JOIN THE UN LUMBER UNIT.
HMMM.
I HAVE ANOTHER THING I WANT TO TAKE CARE OF.
BUT BEFORE THAT,

ガラン
I GOT IT FROM ONE OF THE FAMILY MEMBERS OUTSIDE, SEEMS HE WANTS TO GIVE IT TO HIS SISTER DIINA.
YOU UNDERSTAND RIGHT... HIS REASONS...?
I'M GOING TO THAT FACILITY ANYWAY.
IF YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING TO DO THERE, YOU CAN TAG ALONG.
ゴトン。

WHO THE HECK IS HE?
SEEMS LIKE HE'S WELL KNOW AMONG THE EX-MERCENARIES AS "COLONEL"
HE'S IN CHARGE OF MY COMPANY'S SECURITY.
WELL,
EVEN THOUGH WE ARE TWINS, OUR RETINA PATTERN AND FINGER PRINTS ARE DIFFERENT.
ASIDE FROM THE FACE, YOU TWINS ARE PRETTY DIFFERENT, DOCTOR.

THIS IS PRETTY FAR AWAY ISN'T IT...
IT'S A MILITARY DEVELOPMENT FACILITY.
I ACTUALLY THINK ITS TOO CLOSE TO THE CITIES
BUT, WITH THE SITUATION WHERE THE PLANTS ARE GROWING CONTINUOUSLY, WE CAN'T PLACE IT TOO FAR FROM POPULATED AREAS.
IT'D BE BURIED UNDER THE TREES IMMEDIATELY.
SHIT
COOL... SO THAT'S AMERICAN MILITARY'S MT EH?
キュン
キュン
キュン
キュン

IT WAS ORIGINALLY DEVELOPED UNDER THE PRETEXT OF A LOGGING MACHINE. BUT IT WAS IMMEDIATELY ADAPTED AS A WEAPON.
LAWL. LOGGING MACHINE ADAPTED TO BE A WEAPON AGAINST WALKING TREES. -FUSHI
NO SHIT? WHAT ELSE WOULD A RAILGUN FIRE? -FUSHI
THEY'RE EQUIPPED WITH A RAILGUN THAT SHOOTS MAGNETIZED BULLETS.
THAT'S WHY OUR MEGALITH COMPANY HURRIEDLY DEVELOPED THESE
WELL, TANKS AREN'T FIT FOR FOREST BATTLES
I KNOW. YOU ARE PLANNING ON USING THE UN LOGGING TEAM TOO.
IF WE HAVE ENOUGH, WE PLAN ON TAKING OUT THE WHOLE FOREST IN ONE GO.
BUT IF YOU PUSH THE TREETOPS WITH THE MTS THE LEVERAGE MAKES THEM FALL EASILY.
IT'S NOT POSSIBLE TO DESTROY THESE TREES JUST BY BULLDOZING THE ROOTS.

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SHUN
MSHU
……

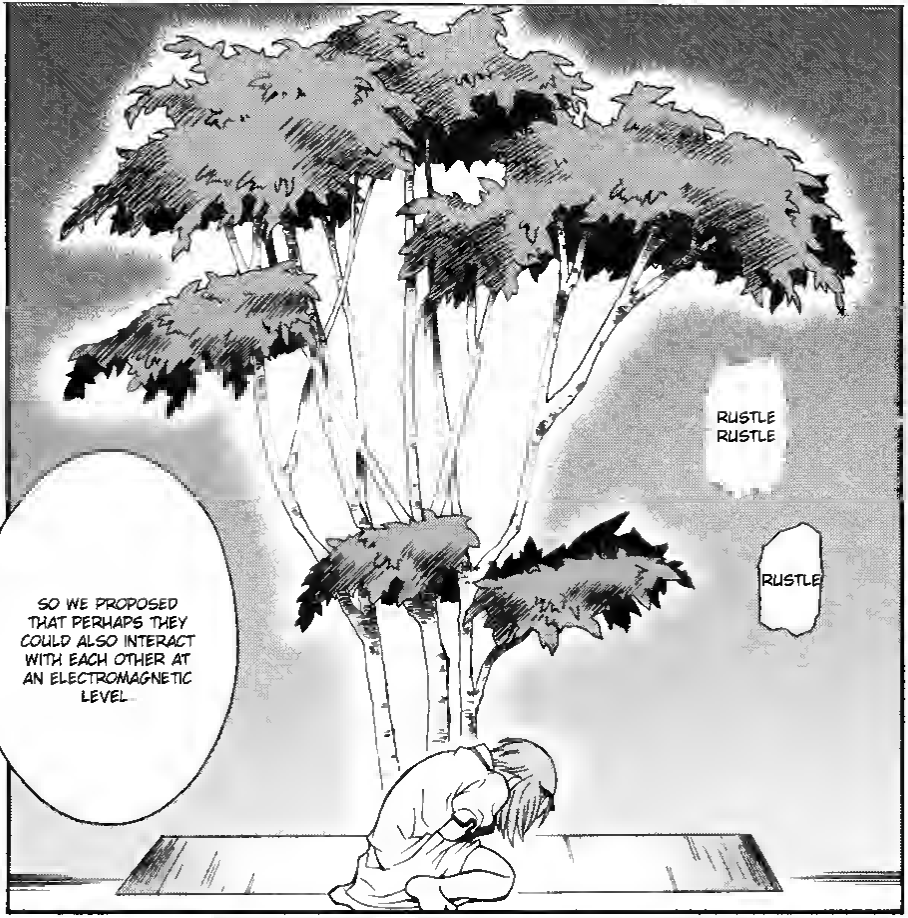
SORRY.
O... O!!! WHAT THE HELL IS THIS?
DID SOMEONE BREAK IN...?
IT'S NOTHING LIKE THAT
I THOUGHT THAT IF I BREAK EVERYTHING HERE,
THEN I DON'T HAVE TO HAVE THE DAILY HEALTH CHECK ANYMORE...
SO...
.....
I'M SORRY.
I'M SORRY.
HSHS
....

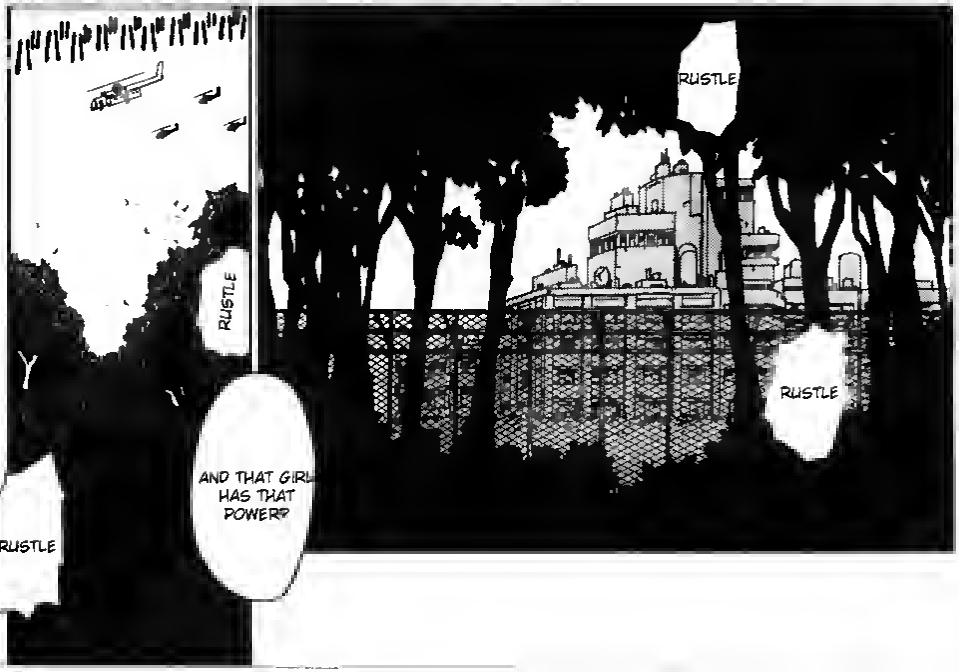
THIS IS FROM YOUR NII-CHAN JIM
NII-CHAN IS DOING WELL
YOU ARE DIINA, RIGHT?
AH... NO, UHHH...
. . . . . .
YOU'LL BE ABLE TO GO BACK RIGHT AWAY.
WHEN THE CHECKS ARE OVER
I THINK THAT
UHH. .
ズーン
ゴ…

YOU'D BETTER HAVE A GOOD EXPLANATION, OR I WON'T FORGIVE YOU.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT THIS CHECK OR EXPERIMENT IS ABOUT, BUT WHAT THE HELL YOU TRYING TO DO HOLDING A KID LIKE HER HERE FOR!?
ガッ!!
ぽん
SAME AS ALWAYS HUH...
DON'T WORRY, THERE'S NOTHING DANGEROUS, I PROMISE
THERE IS SIMPLY A NEED FOR LONG TERM OBSERVATION OF THEIR SPECIAL POWERS.
SPECIAL POWERS?
YEAH... THE ABILITY TO INFILTRATE THE FOREST NETWORK.
IT KINDA LIKE TELEPATHY
A NETWORK?
OF THE TREES?

WE HAVE ELECTROMAGNETIC KNOWLEDGE KNOWN AS "AREOPATHY".
PLANTS HAVE ALWAYS INTERACTED WITH EACH OTHER VIA CHEMICALS.
WITH THIS HUGE DISASTER, THEY'VE EVOLVED
RUSTLE*

*WHEN THE PLANTS ARE RUSTLING THEY ARE COMMUNICATING WITH EACH OTHER

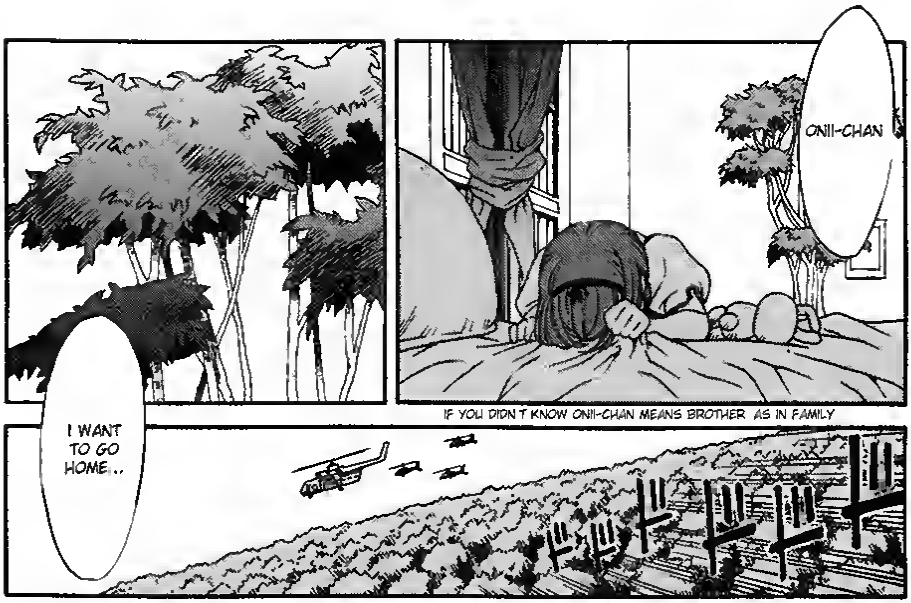

RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
SO WE PROPOSED THAT PERHAPS THEY COULD ALSO INTERACT WITH EACH OTHER AT AN ELECTROMAGNETIC LEVEL


RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
AND THAT GIRL HAS THAT POWER?
RUSTLE

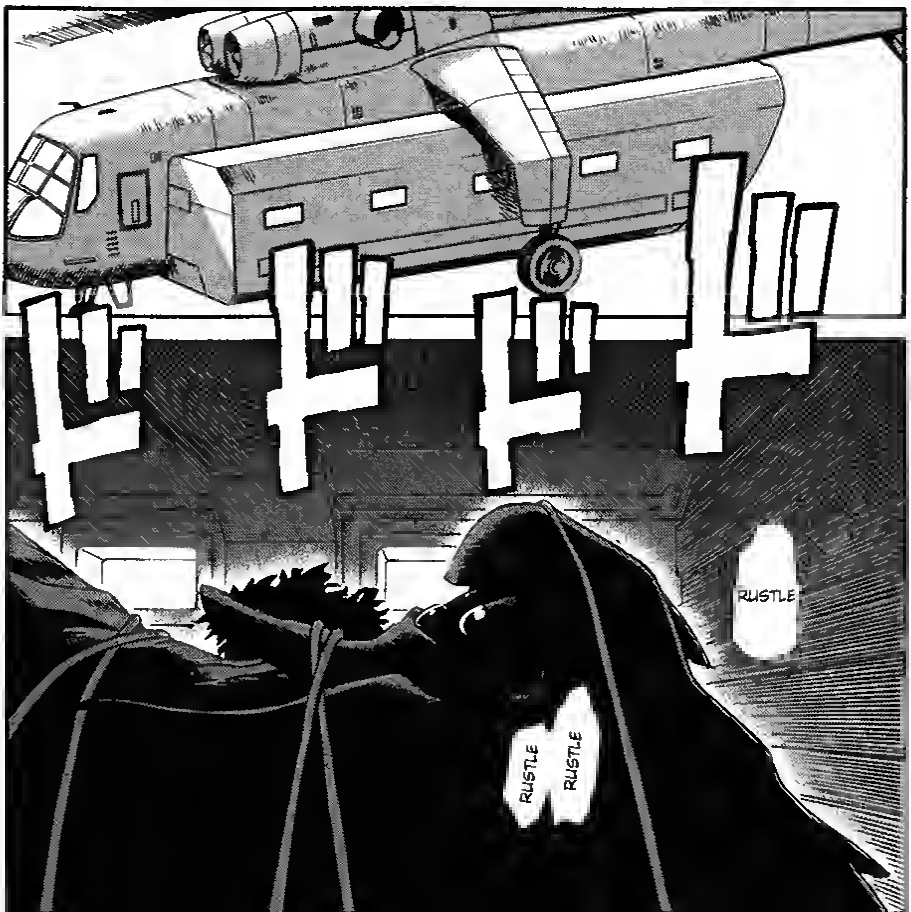
THAT'S THE PROBLEM.
THAT'S WHY I SAID IT'D TAKE TIME.
WE CAN ONLY HYPOTHESISE THAT WE CAN OBSERVE THAT KIND OF PHENOMANON, NOTHING SOLID YET.
BUT IF WE CAN SOLVE THAT,
WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO COMPLETELY STOP THE ABNORMAL GROWTH OF THESE PLANTS.
THAT'S...
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
OUR PARENTS BOTH DIED BECAUSE OF THE PLANT BURST.

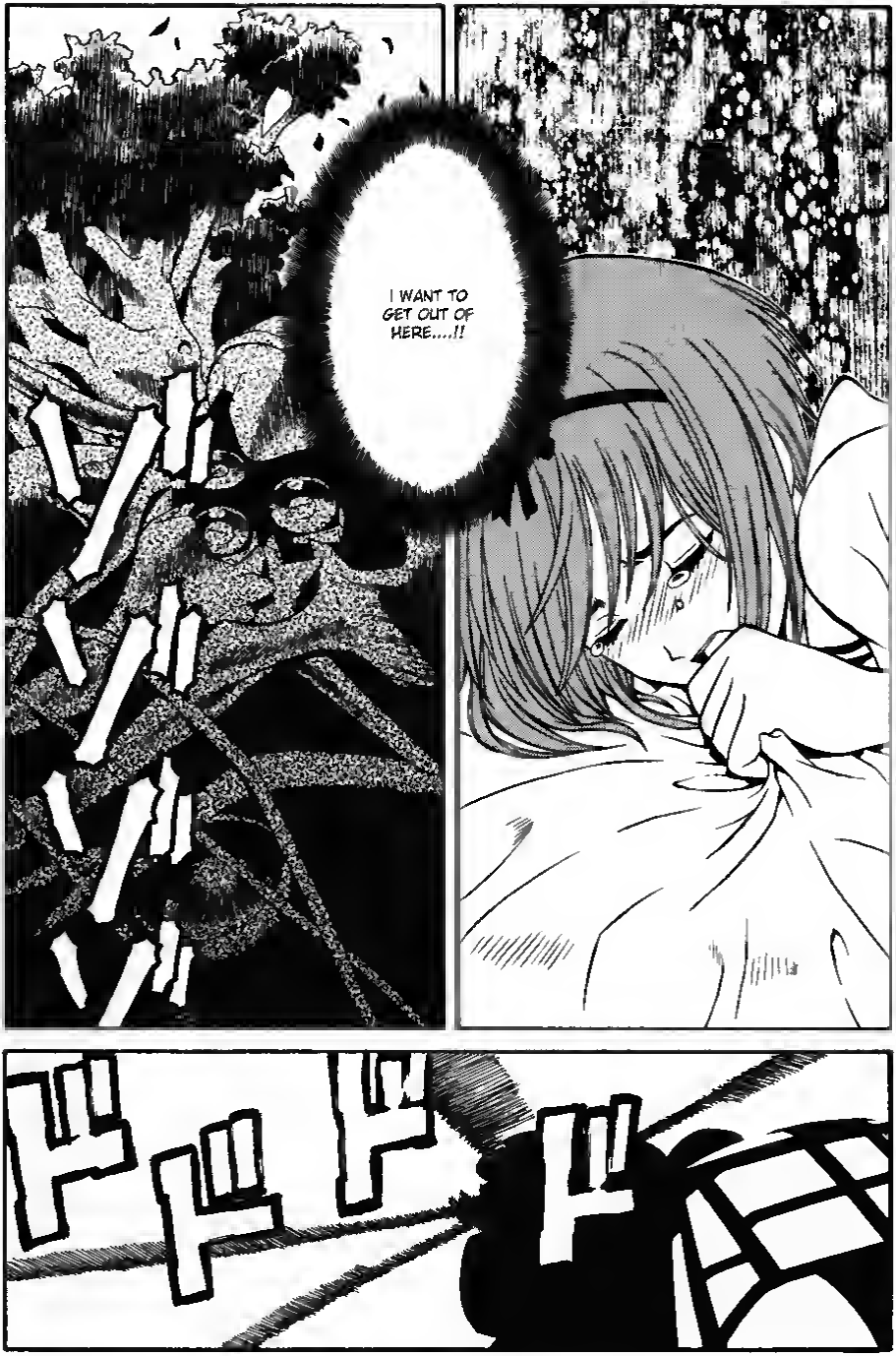
IF YOU CAN GET RID OF THIS ABNORMAL ENVIRONMENT WITH THAT...
IT'D BE GREAT.
.. HER FAMILY RECEIVED ASSURANCES FROM THE COMPANY
SHE MIGHT BE IN PAIN, BUT IT'S ONLY FOR A LITTLE LONGER
I DONT GET THE THINKING OF YOU SMART ONES.
SMART?
THAT'S RIGHT, YOU'VE ALWAYS DONE BETTER THAN ME.
QUIT KIDDING..!

YOU JUST HATE STUDYING, THATS ALL.
THE TRULY SMART ONES ARE...
THE ONES LIKE YOU WHO CAN DO EVERYTHING WITHOUT EVEN TRYING.
I KNOW THAT
YOU HELD YOURSELF BACK DURING THE INTELLENGENCE TEST.
AM I RIGHT?
IT WAS NOTHING LIKE THAT...
YOU'RE THINKING TOO MUCH, BRO.
SNIFFLE
...



GC NOTE: IF YOU DIDN'T KNOW ONII-CHAN MEANS 'BROTHER' AS IN FAMILY




I WANT TO GET OUT OF HERE....!!
ドドドド

IT'S HERE.
WHAT'S IN IT!?
HUGE...
SAME AS THE GIRL EARLIER
SOMETHING THAT WILL REVEAL THE EARTH'S FUTURE

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!?
WHAT!?
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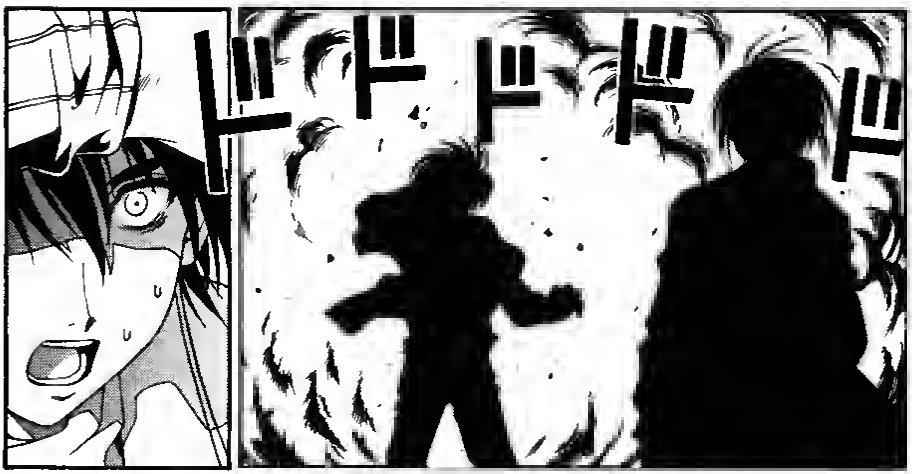
WE CAN'T MAINTAIN THIS ALTITUDE!!
WE'LL CRA-



キリキリ
キリッ
ゴバッ
ドーン
WH...
WHAT THE HELL IS THAT!?

..THAT IS "AREDOUSA"
キシャー
A PLANT THAT'S MOBILE
ドドドド
ウ
02
01

WH-
IT'S AN EMERGENCY.
THE FACILITY IS GOING INTO DEFENSE FORMATION.
BE CAREFUL.
.....

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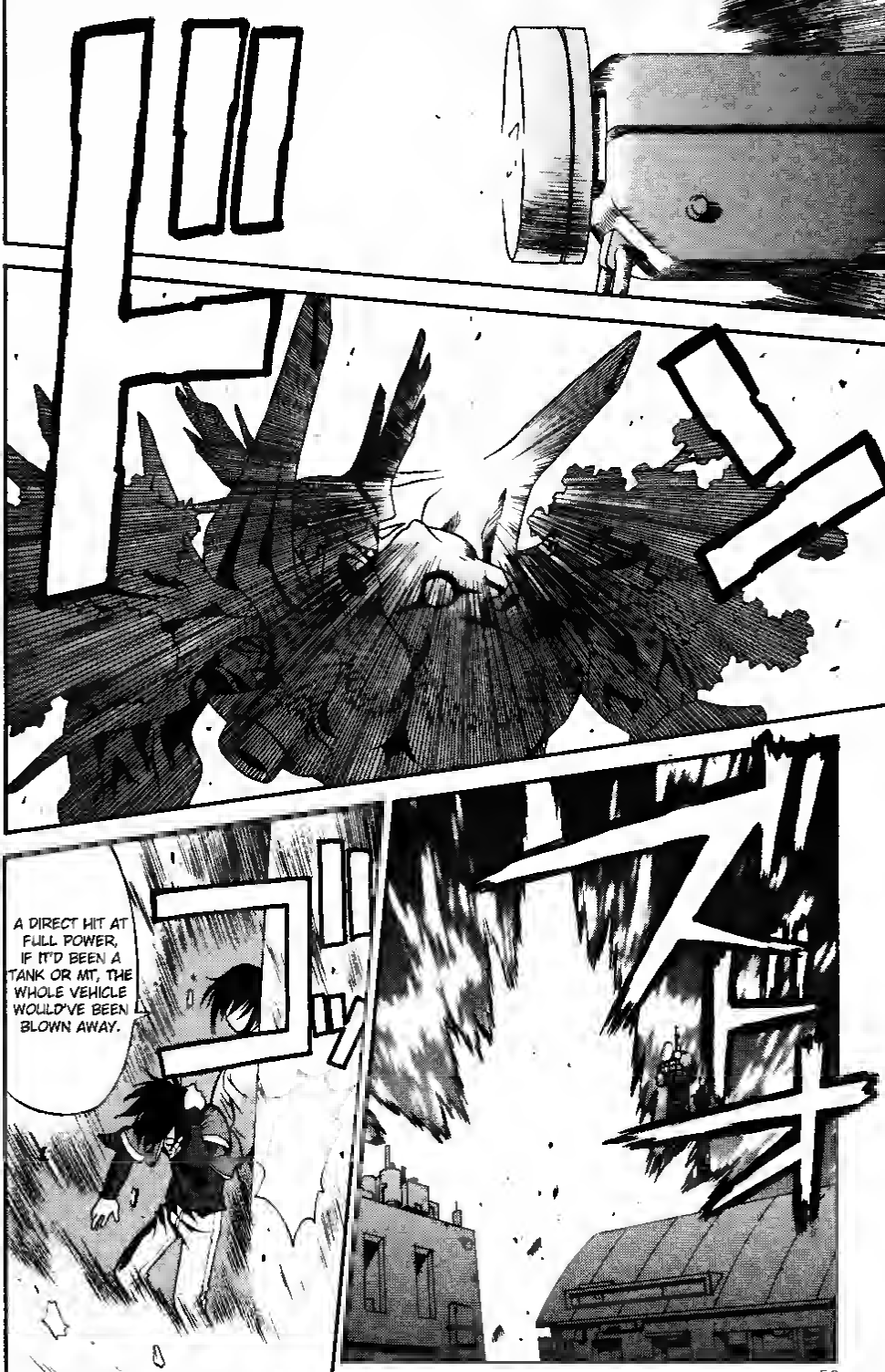
ドドドド

THEY ARE JUST NEEDLESSLY WASTING LIVES,
THATS RIGHT, AT LEAST BRING OUT THAT MUCH.

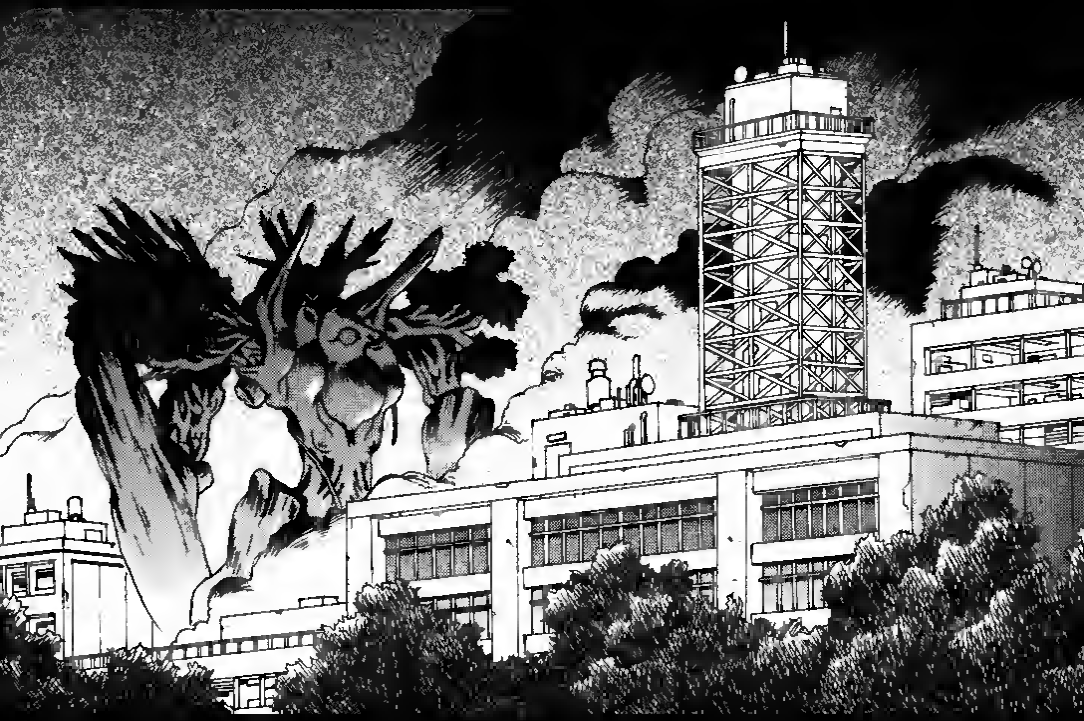

A DIRECT HIT AT FULL POWER, IF IT'D BEEN A TANK OR MT, THE WHOLE VEHICLE WOULD'VE BEEN BLOWN AWAY.

ゴオオオ
WHA...
IT STRENGTHENED IT'S SURFACE TISSUES.
IT'S STILL BASICALLY A KIND OF TREE. IT PROBABLY HAS SOME SORT OF CARBON ARMOR.
キン キン キン
PUT SIMPLY IT'S CALLED EVOLUTION AND IT'S GOAL IS EXTREMELY SIMPLE.
HIGHER LEVELS OF "SELF ORGANIZATION"
AS LONG AS IT'S A LIVING THING, THAT WON'T CHANGE
ズ ズ ズ ッ

LIFE WAS BORN ON EARTH
FIRST IT EXPERIENCED THE POSSIBILITIES OF MANY EVOLUTIONS AS PLANKTON .

AND PROBABLY
DINOSAURS FLOURISHED
THEN FLYING CREATURES AND MAMMALS
THEN IT FINALLY ADVANCED ONTO LAND
NO MATTER HOW EVOLUTION PROCEEDS IT'S GOAL IS DEFINITELY "SELF ORGANIZATION".
THIS WAS REPEATED UNTIL WE HUMANS EVENTUALLY EVOLVED.

ITS GOAL IS THE SAME
FOR AREDOUSA AS WELL
ズ ズ ズ ズ



ドドド

I REPEAT! SEND REINFORC-
CAN'T STOP THE TARGET!!
ドン ドン

WHAT IS THAT MONSTER DOING...
IT'S GOING STRAIGHT FOR SOMETHING...?
ベキ
バキ
ベキ
!
NOT GOOD! IN THAT BUILDING IS ..
ナゼッ
NO, YOU CAN'T.
!?
ばっ
DAMN! I'LL LISTEN TO THE LECTURE LATER!
IF WE DONT GET THAT GIRL OUT OF THERE...

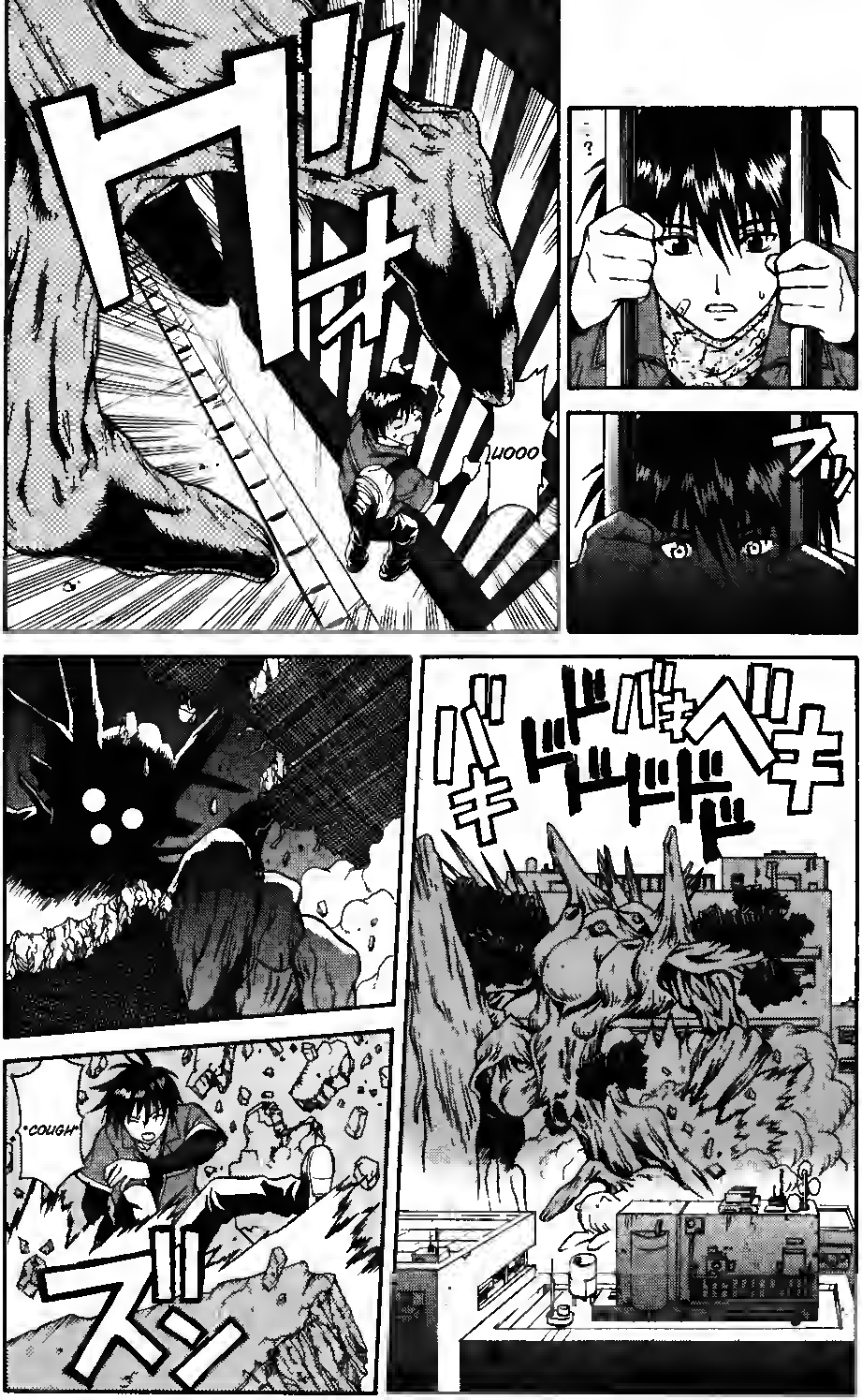
H... HEY!?
THIS HAS GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU.
IF YOU ARE GOING TO LET THE GIRL GO AND INTERFERE WITH THE RESEARCH
I WON'T FORGIVE EVEN YOU.
RIGHT NOW THE MOST IMPORTANT THING TO ME IS RESEARCHING THE "TRUTH"
IF IT'S FOR THAT...
ゲシッ

IT WOULDN'T MATTER EVEN IF YOU WERE MY BLOOD BROTHER

ドドドン
ドドドン
ばしっ
DO WHAT YOU WANT...

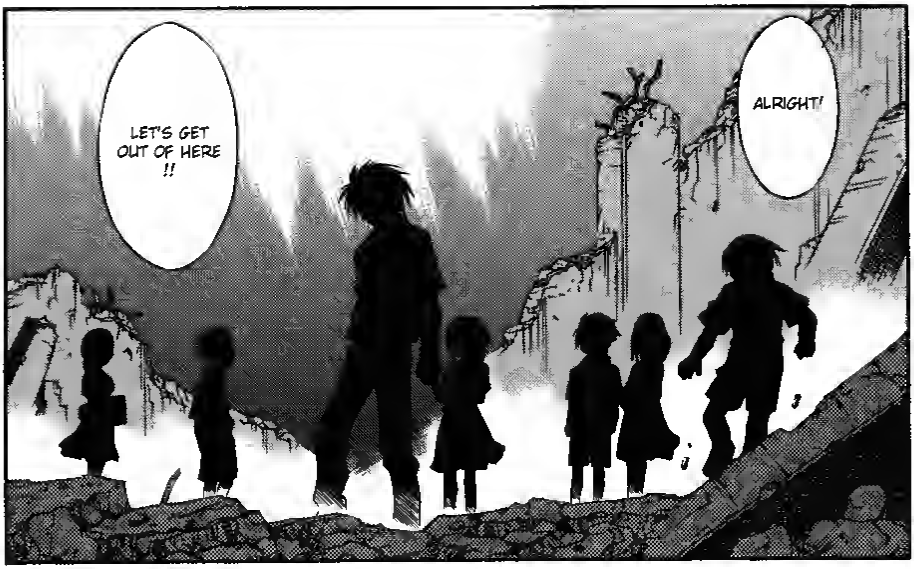
I DON'T CARE WHAT HAPPENS...
HAH HAH
BEEP
HAH
HAH
BEEP
SHIT!!

ガッ
ガッ
ガシャッ
DIINA!

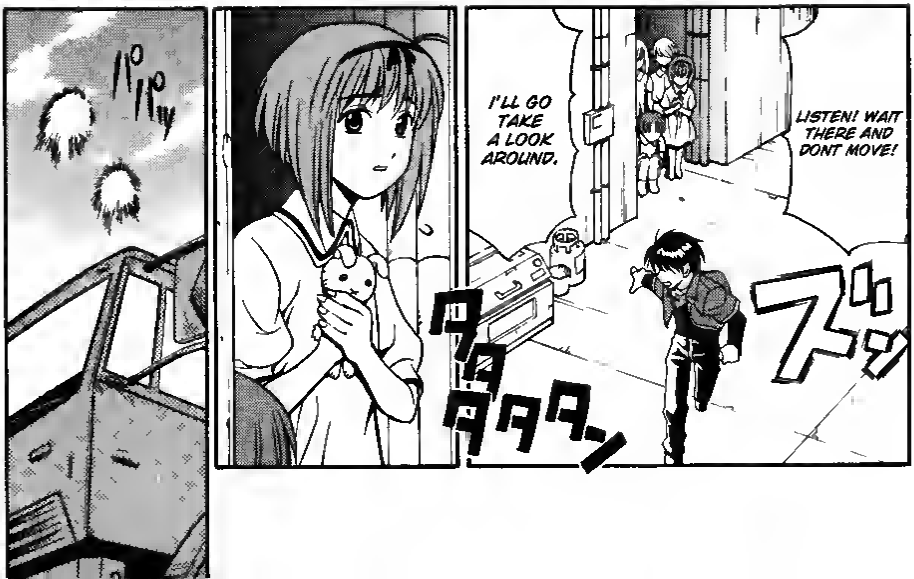

ドリル
WOOO
ブッ
バキバキバキ
"COUGH"
ズン

パラパラパラ
ガラッ
ズゥン
ズゥン
ギギ
CLANK
DIINA! ITS DANGEROUS HERE! HURRY AND RUN!
は、

EVERYONE
...
THERE WERE SO MANY HERE...
LET'S GO NOW
WHAT SHOULD I DO...? ANYWAY RIGHT NOW WE SHOULD GET AWAY
NOTHING GOOD WILL COME OF STAYING HERE LIKE THIS ..?
GRAB


LET'S GET OUT OF HERE !!
ALRIGHT!

ゴォォォ


I'LL GO TAKE A LOOK AROUND.
LISTEN! WAIT THERE AND DONT MOVE!
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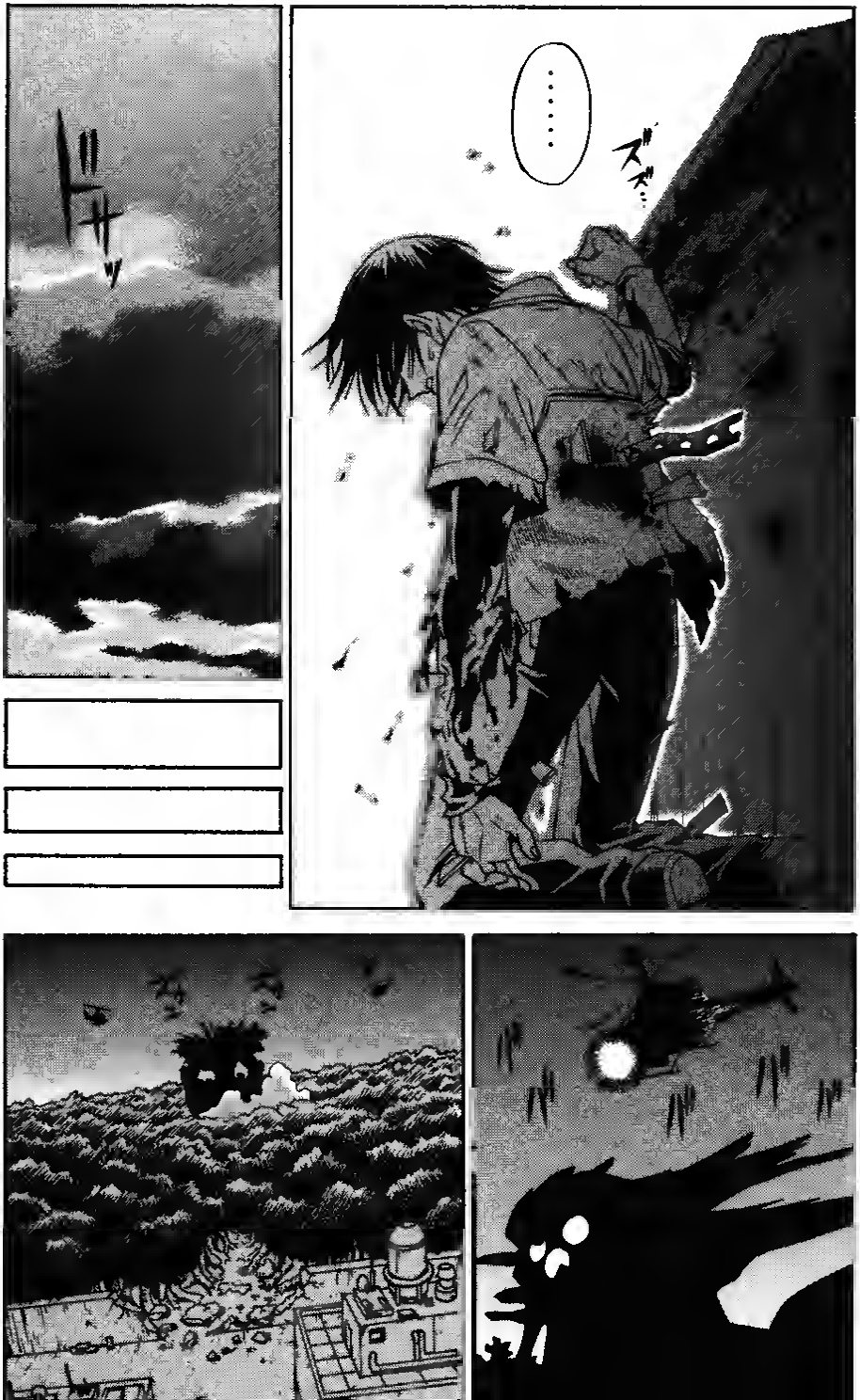
!!
たっ

WELL, IT'S FINE
LOOK OVER THERE.
HEY YOU KIDS!
DIDN'T I TELL YOU GUYS NOT TO MOVE.
IS THERE ANYONE THAT KNOWS HOW TO GET TO THE CITY?
BECAUSE OF THE EXPLOSION JUST NOW, A GOOD EXIT WAS MADE.
I'LL FOLLOW UP.
PERFECT.
THEN EVERYONE GO AHEAD.
YEAH.
EVERYONE KNOWS THAT MUCH! OVER THERE!
RIGHT?

EH...
EH..
I SAID SORRY DIDN'T I! I'LL CATCH UP TO YOU GUYS WHEN I'M DONE!
NO.. SORRY, I'VE GOT SOMETHING TO TAKE CARE OF.
EH!? YOU AREN'T COMING WITH US!?
.....
YEAH.
ALRIGHT! THEN GET GOING ALREADY!
EVERYONE GO TOWARDS THE CITY! CAN YOU DO IT?
BUT IT MIGHT TAKE A WHILE SO..

DON'T GET LOST IN THE WOODS.
ALRIGHT, THAT'S GOOD
RUN RUN
GOOD LUCK.
HURRY UP TO [illegible] YOUR [illegible] IS.


……
ズズ…

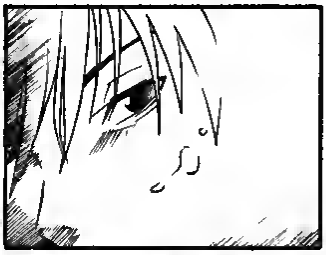
BUT THERE IS ONE POSSIBILITY IN THIS BAD LUCK
WELL SHIN
YOU ARE ALREADY DYING
I WON'T CARE WHAT HAPPENS
DIDN'T I SAY SO?
....

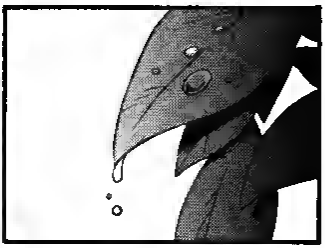
AND SURELY
YOU WILL HATE ME IF YOU SURVIVE LIKE THIS...

BUT THAT'S FINE WITH ME

I JUST WANT TO GET CLOSER TO THE TRUTH

I...
I'M ALIVE ..?





WHAT...?
WHA...
UUUH!?
ガシッ!

TWITCH
TWITCH

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CREDITS PAGE BY FERRET (MORE AWESOME THAN YOURS)

FUSHI-RANTS

SUP BITCHES, So I'm in a particularly fiesty mood this merry New Years eve as you may have noticed by some of the comments I left in the chapter. I hope you all enjoy this chapter enough to donate to us :P. Verdant Lord doesn't have chapters per say, so I decided to divide it up where ever there seemed to be the largest cliff hanger! Lucky you! MWUHAHA-HAHAHA. Oh dear I am a douche. Till next time~

CREDITS PAGE BY FERRET (MORE AWESOME THAN YOURS)

VERDANT LORD

by Hiroshi Takashige & Atsushi Soga

easy going scans
www.egscans.com

Verdant Lord ch 1

Credits

Scanner: Vergil
Translator: Do_or_Die
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WAAAH!
RIP RIP
RIP RIP
RIP
!
ビィン!
ARGH!!
WHAT IS GOING ON!?
カリッ
OUCH
OW OW OW OW OW!
NGGH!
tear
WHAT THE HECK IS THIS...!?
CREAK

IS THERE ANYONE HERE!?
UW AAA AH!
U...
P.. PLEASE SAVE ME..!
MY BODY'S
DON'T COME NEAR US, YOU MONSTER!

D... DON'T MOVE!
Wait!
Please, I'm...
I SAID DON'T MOVE!

ナルシャ
ズズッ
……
!!!

PING
ミシ ミシ ミシ
RIP
Rip
!? . . . !!?
COUGH
CHOKE
カラ..
ドン!!
U
UWA AH!!

What the... Hell... Was that. !?
WE NEED TO CONTACT THE MAIN BODY!
WE HAVE TO REPORT THAT SUSPICIOUS PERSON!
....

Even though I ran at full speed, I'm not tired at all...
And I'm not out of breath either...
ガ!!
Calm down! Even if I panic here, it can't be helped!
Why am I in such a...
!?

Because of... Ken...

がさ
がさ..
Ah, you're safe...! I'm so glad that...

EXTEND

Let's go.

ﾐﾘｷ

……

Don't worry. We'll catch up with everyone else that went astray very soon.

grab
Hmm?
What's wrong?
This is shocking.
Your death should have been confirmed...
However, it would seem you were somehow revived

Furthermore, you got here ahead of us, and without getting lost
Not only that
It seems the report about the presence of a monster was referring to you.
What-ever... Why don't you obediently hand over that little girl?
She's an important experimental sample
While you're at it, you can let us capture you as a new experimental subject.
Just a minute...

A return match, huh?
It would be smarter to just give up.
If you're going to treat people like monsters
You can come and catch us yourself.
Since I also have a debt to pay...
HOW INTIMIDATING CAN AN UNARMED YOUNGSTER BE?
There's no other option.
I'LL APPLY SOME MOXIBUSTION TO YOU!

MOXIBUSTION ONE OF THE ANCIENT ASIAN MEDICINES.

. Damn! He's totally underestimating me.
Hmm
Hmm
Hmm
SHIT!
You're too damn slow!

WHAT'S WRONG? DO IT ALREADY!
HAHA HA!
THAT'S GOOD, KID!
Heh... Just watch this!
パ ン!
SHAKING

ARRGH!
WHAT THE HELL...
IS WRONG WITH HIS BODY?!

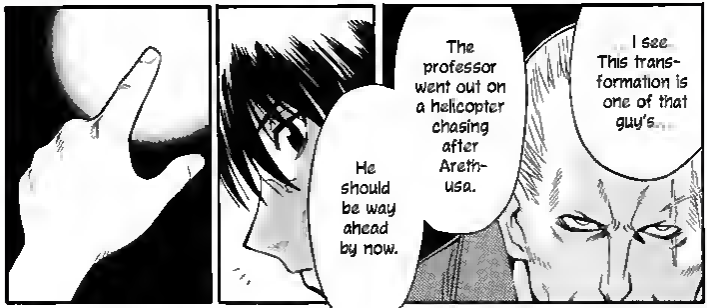
ドシャ
ACK!
BLA RGH!!
ガキ.
WOO!!

Don't think you can get away...
Don't move!
I can get away
Somehow, I have more than enough strength to do that right now
With this arm,
I feel like I can bend your neck into...
The shape of a "V"
I SAID DON'T MOVE, DIDN'T I?!
WOO SH
SH..

GRA AAH!
CRACK
ワリン!
ALL OF YOU GATHER TOGETHER AND TOSS YOUR WEAPONS INTO THAT THICKET!
INCLUDING THE KNIVES!

Where is Ken?!
I almost forgot something important.

I can't keep doing this flamboyant cosplay forever, you know?
so he's the one who would know how to counter them.
He knows the origins of these symptoms.
Why would you ask that?


He should be way ahead by now.
The professor went out on a helicopter chasing after Arethusa.
I see. This transformation is one of that guy's...

..This way?
ドン
ぴょい
Alright, later!

Let them go!
You will all join another squad and continue searching for those precious brats.
We can't catch them at that speed.
If I can catch that kid, I'll understand the intentions of that secretive professor...
This is a rare opport-unity!
I'LL CHASE THAT GUY MYSELF!
CONTACT THE BASE AND TELL THEM TO SEND A HELICOPTER.

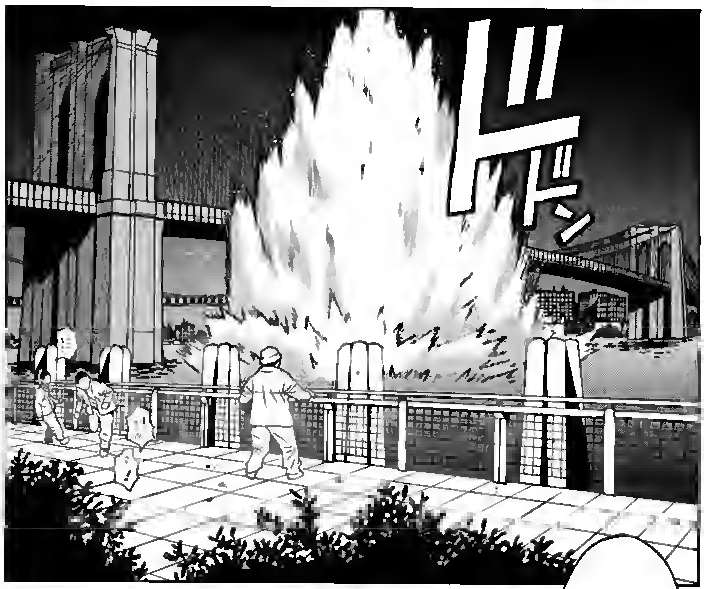
I'll see what kind of secret that kid and that Arethusa share!
step
There!
?

Right now, I'm not...
!?
THU MP
IN THE MOOD TO JOKE AROUND!!
TOSS

No matter what the result was, Ken saved my life...
!!
My only option is to ask for a favor once more.
!!
!!
!!
!!
Definitely...

I will definitely return my body to normal!

ヤバい


ドドン

Will it act in the way I expected?
Or are its objectives totally different...?
Honestly, I'm really curious.

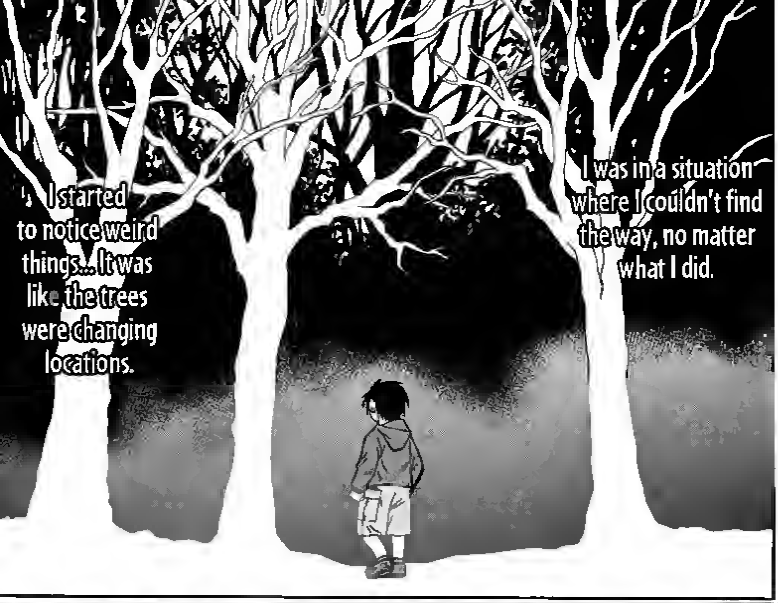
ドドドドド

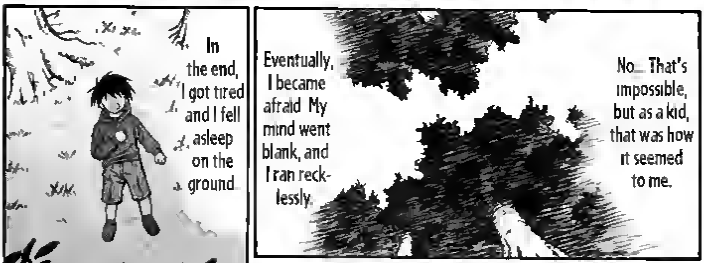
Since I was ordered by the higher-ups to report your actions in detail...
Well, I'm a bad guy.
Ah, you really saw that, did you?
Why did you do such a thing to your brother?
That aside...
I must ask you to restrain yourself from arbitrary acts in the future.
The rows of gingkos look so good~ While I'm walking with you~

On the stone road~
♪
It's been a long time ~~~
♪
I don't know what he's singing, but he's not skilled at all
Maybe it makes him feel better

Why does that onii-chan look like that? Is it some kind of illness?
But that's so cool... He's a "wood-man"!
No way! "Plant man" sounds cooler, right?!
It may not be this kind but...
Plantman, huh...
I really am just like wood. What's the relationship between that and the monster, Arethusa?
But...
Landmarks can't be seen from inside the forest, so it's hard to keep your bearings.
.....
Ah!
It's okay, we'll get there soon!

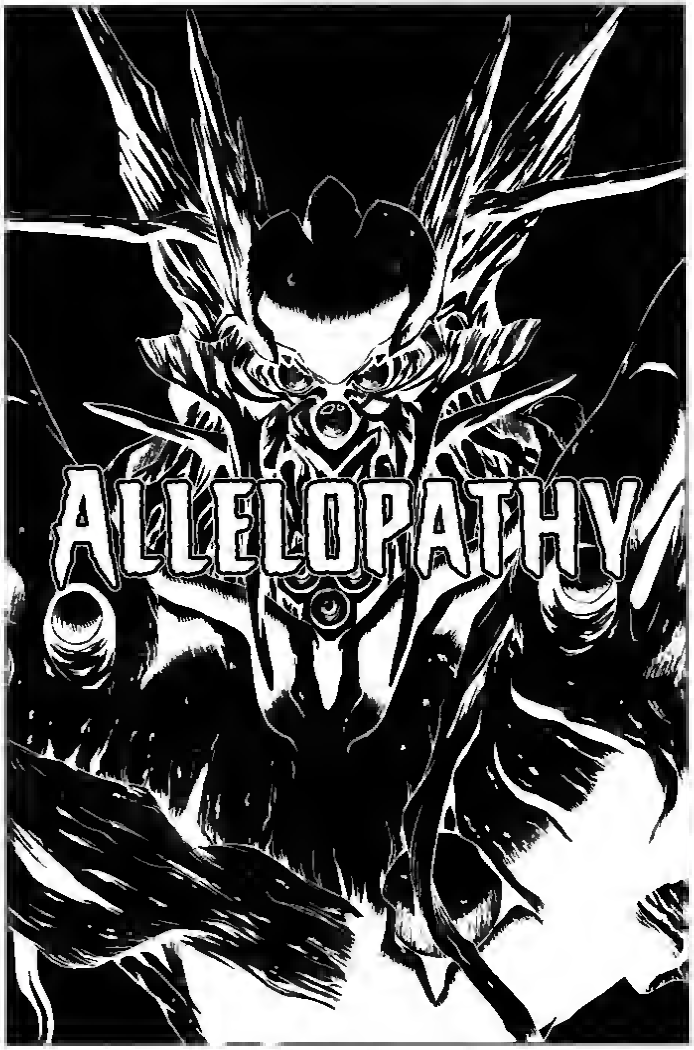
I'm dying!
My foot's aching
We don't have food, but we can rest a little.
It should only be a little further. I think we can get there before dark.
.....
.....
.....
Hmm..
What was that...? When I was a kid...
?
Probably 10 years before you guys were born.
It was around then. I remember getting lost inside the expanding forests, and I couldn't find my way out.


I started to notice weird things... It was like the trees were changing locations.
I was in a situation where I couldn't find the way, no matter what I did.

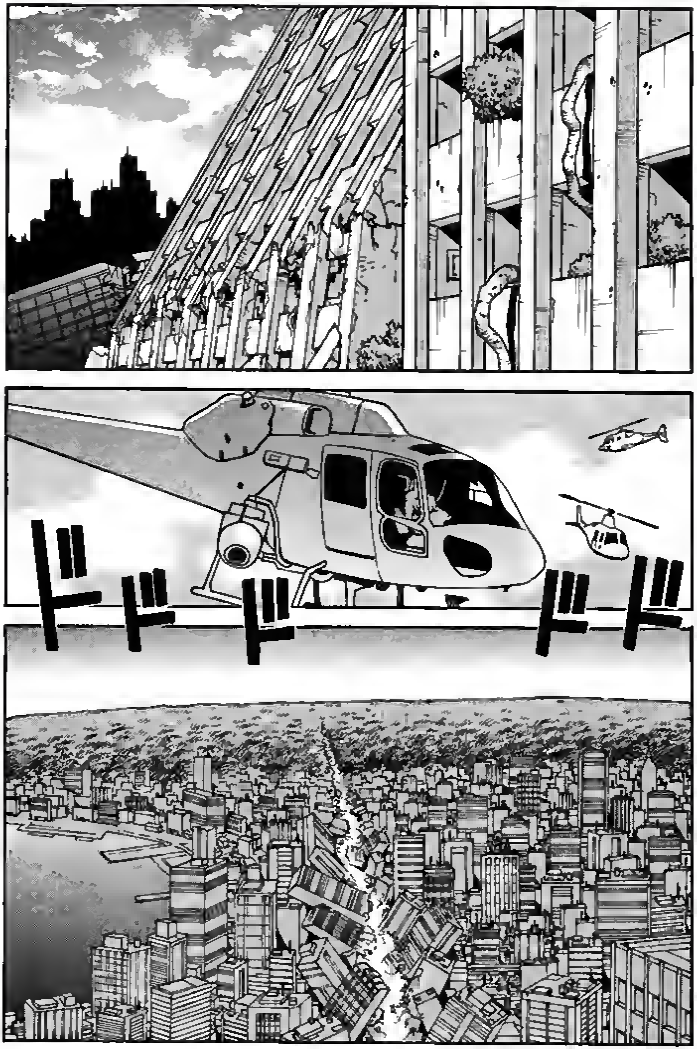

In the end, I got tired and I fell asleep on the ground.
Eventually, I became afraid. My mind went blank, and I ran recklessly.
No... That's impossible, but as a kid, that was how it seemed to me.

I was so happy to see them...
When I woke up, the lights from the town were visible through the trees.
without carrying a compass and a navigator.
Since then, I never went deep into the forest
Kids these days are way different from our times.
.....
Which way is the town?
Alright, that's enough. We need to get there before sunset

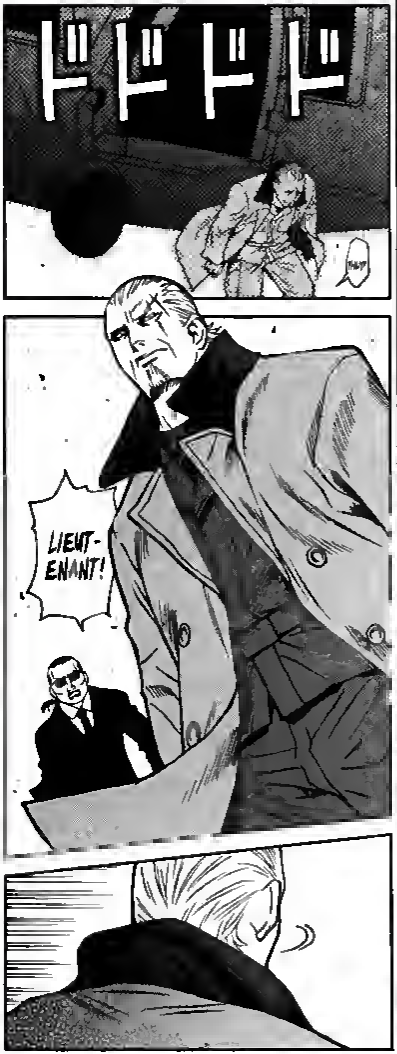
Wait a second... I see!
Oh!
But this forest is so deep that it even gave those army guys a hard time... Why do these kids understand the directions?
That method of interaction may have evolved into electromagnetism during that great change.
Originally, plants interacted with each other by using chemicals.
If we assume that these kids are linked to the "forest network" through something like telepathy, then that is...
Does that mean these kids can understand specifically because we're in the middle of the forest ..?
If that's true...


ALLELOPATHY

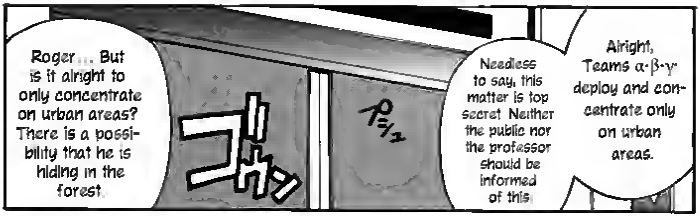
But what kind of a result was he....
It's obvious that something is going on...
Well he was performing research using regular methods
ガサ
ガサ
!!
.....
Expecting...?

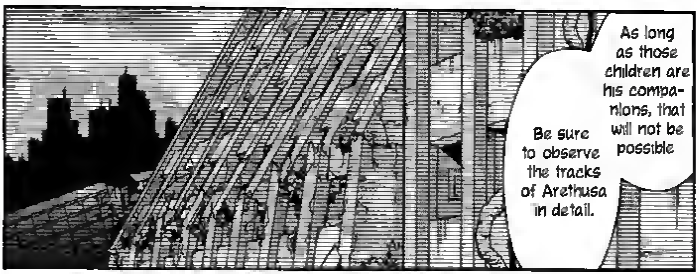


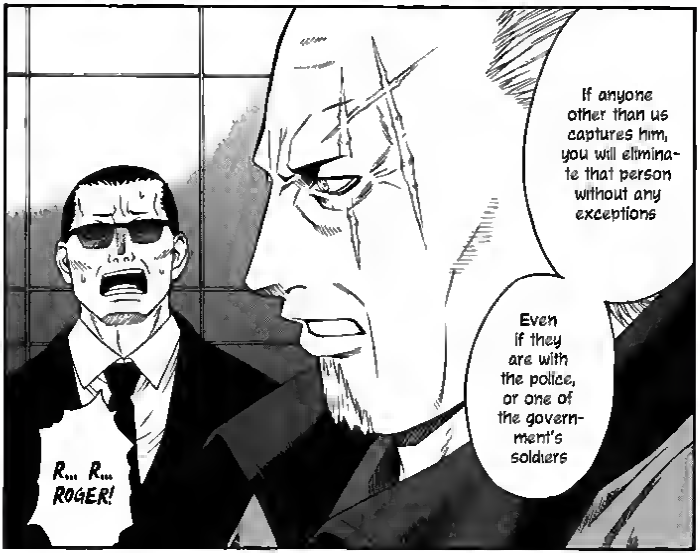
That's it...
That's the one who did all this...!
But why did he make such a mess..?
It's definitely going towards a specific place!


ドドドド
LIEUT-ENANT!

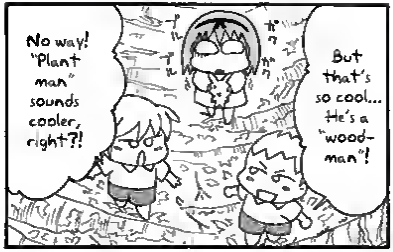
Damn!
What about the strange humanoid?
That is still under investigation I am sorry...
Anything after the Arethusa chase until now is unclear.
ANY NEWS ON THE PROFESSOR'S ACTIONS?
bang
ガラン
No matter what happens, I need to know that guy's intentions.
Arethusa and that youngster are strong cards... Will he catch them or let them slip?

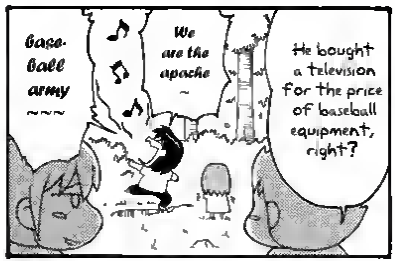

Roger... But is it alright to only concentrate on urban areas? There is a possibility that he is hiding in the forest.
ゴゥン
パシュ
Needless to say, this matter is top secret. Neither the public nor the professor should be informed of this.
Alright, Teams α·β·γ· deploy and concentrate only on urban areas.


As long as those children are his companions, that will not be possible
Be sure to observe the tracks of Arethusa in detail.


If anyone other than us captures him, you will eliminate that person without any exceptions
Even if they are with the police, or one of the government's soldiers
R... R... ROGER!

By now, he should have arrived at town after chasing Arethusa.
Make sure to catch him.
I won't let this chance slip a-way!





You guys how old are you?

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VERDANT LORD

by Hiroshi Takashige & Atsushi Soga

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Verdant Lord ch 3

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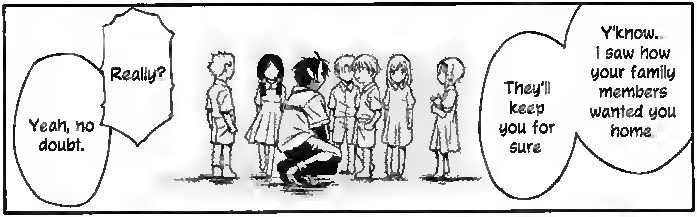
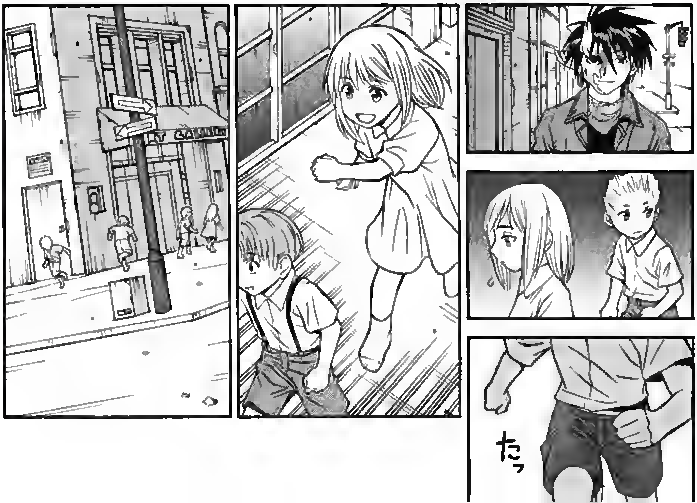
Anyway
This riverside is far enough, I guess.

You're worried 'bout being scolded and sent back?
Even if we return..
But we ran away from the lab.
This is it. Everyone go home now.


Yeah, no doubt.
Really?
They'll keep you for sure
Y'know.. I saw how your family members wanted you home.


たっ

Worried about me? Thanks for the thought, but this is my problem. I'll take care of it.
But...
Will you go back to your big brother?
Please don't make that face.
I'll come visit once my body returns to normal.
So go to your brother. It'll end his worrying
Well then, I'm leaving too.
Okay...

Anyway, I need to get looking
Only relates to Ken and that Monster...
Well, what I was saying
!!
If I follow these ruins, I will...

Erm... Well...
.....
I'm in the way
right ?
.....
.....

GYA AAA!
WAA AAAA AAH!
POLICE

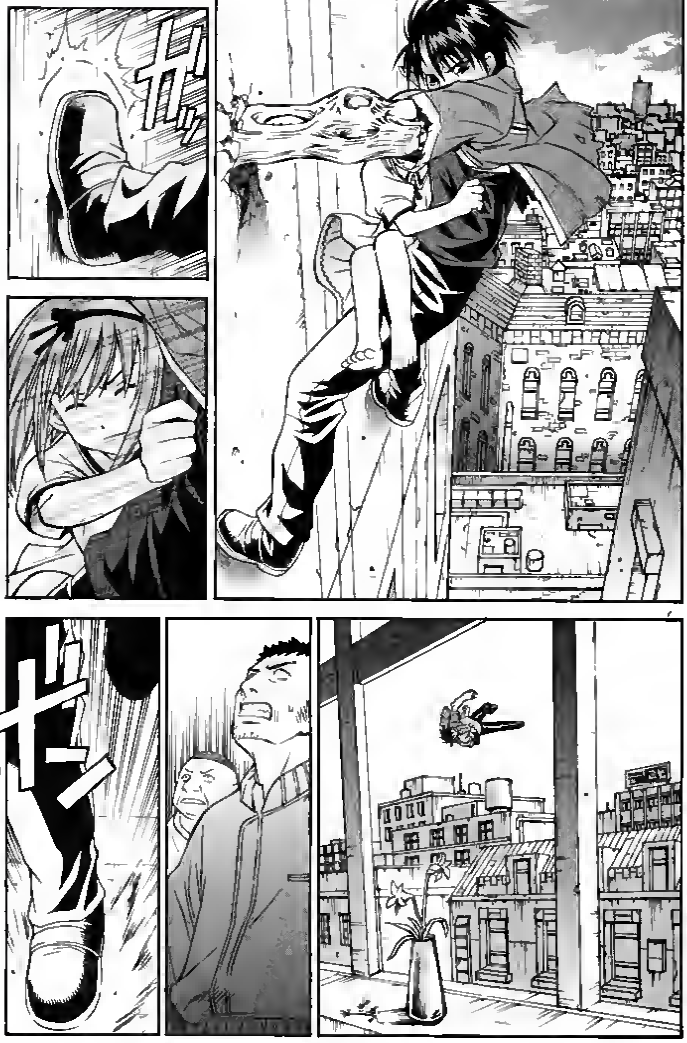
Ow ww
MOVE!
HEY, WHAT'S THIS?
WAA AAAH!
Wha ...!

H-Hey! Pull yourselves to-
!!
Curse you Monster!
Wait a second I didn't do any-
Hey, check his appearance
IT'S THE SAME-
HE'S THE SAME AS THAT THING.
THE SAME AS THE GIANT THAT...
WRECKED THE CITY OVERNIGHT!

F...
Mon-ster...
You damn mon-ster...
GET OUT OF HERE, MONSTER!
STOP IT! YOU SHOULDN'T PROVOKE HIM!
FUCK Y'ALLL!!
PLEA-SE!
Dena...

...YES! A MONSTER!
Reporting from block 125. A large humanoid monster has been detected, and is running wild
SHIT
WHY'D YOU FOLLOW ME?! ISN'T THIS DANGEROUS?!
But..
IT'S HERE!
It seems the monster kidnapped a child and is on run!
Send reinforcements immediately
WHO, OR...
Heh... It's not something that a kid needs to worry over
For my... For our sake, your appearance became...

WE CORNERED IT!
THIS WAY!
.....
FOUND HIM!
NO WAY.
DID HE DISAPPEAR?
.....!?
No way.
IRS
IRS


ガッ
ガン

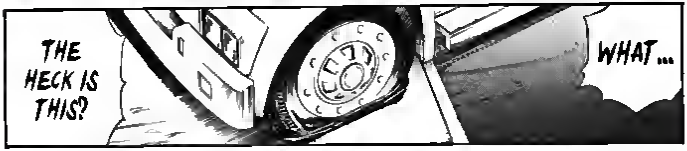
Phe eee ew...
creak
.....
This isn't comple-tely bad, I guess.

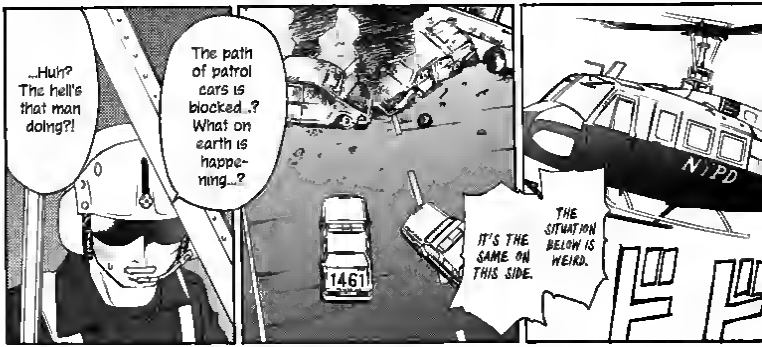
Warning, to the suspect below! The surrounding area is under blockade
Please release the girl and surrender immedi-lately!
N.P.D
!
He's like a kid
Fools Heeeeeh!
STOP YOUR BULLSHIT! AS IF I'D GET CAUGHT WHEN I DID NOTHING WRONG!
ｱﾊﾊ
ｱﾊﾊ
ｱﾊﾊ

MPD POLICE
CHA-CHUNK
HE'S THERE, ON TOP OF THAT BUILDING
ガンッ
!!
ガガガガガ
HAVE THE GROUND FORCES STOP FIRING! CAN'T THEY SEE THAT HE HAS A HOSTAGE?!
EVERYONE'S PANICKED DUE TO THE DESTRUCTION THE MONSTER CAUSED, AND THE SUBSEQUENT UPROAR.

SERIOUSLY, IS THAT GUY REALLY THE REBEL?
I DON'T KNOW
BUT THE FACTS ARE; THE RESISTANCE GOT STRONGER BECAUSE OF HIM -- INCREASING INJURIES RADICALLY -- AND HE IS FLEEING WITH A LITTLE GIRL AS HIS SHIELD.
POLICE
!!
SCREECH
PATROL CARS ARE LEAVING EARLY TO BLOCK HIS ESCAPE ROUTES! WE ARE CONTAINING IT FROM THE SKY AND THE GROUND.

ART
SLAM
2781
2753


THE HECK IS THIS?
WHAT...


...Huh? The hell's that man doing?!
The path of patrol cars is blocked..? What on earth is happening...?
1461
IT'S THE SAME ON THIS SIDE.
THE SITUATION BELOW IS WEIRD.
NYPD

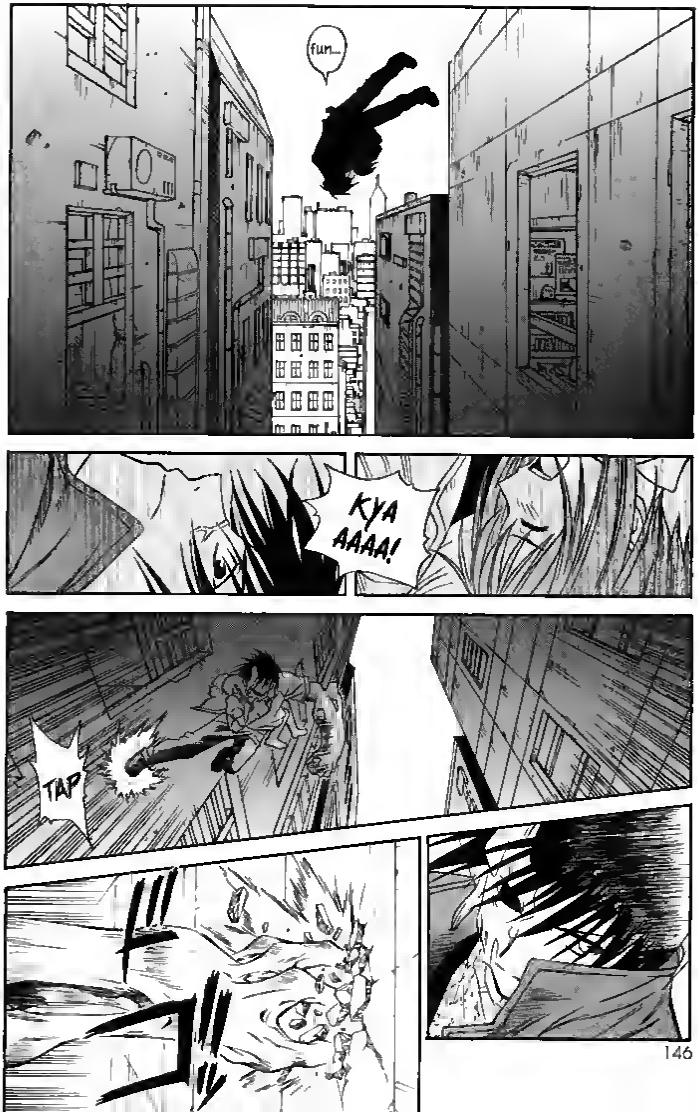
ドン
シュボッ

ドドドド
This is Y-4, enemy's silenced
It's already over.. This work was boring
I had expectations since Lieutenant told us that he planned something big.. But look at this
Y-1 speaking Understood Road blocking here is complete
Everyone, retreat Leave the rest to a team
ドドドド

……
Hey master, you know, that spot is close by. How 'bout I go give them a hand?
Leaving the good part to a team takes all the fun away…
ドドド
I'm telling you to catch that Mr. Important together, until Lieutenant decides to use us, the Astrays
ドドド

A police chopper exploded
!!
WHO ARE YOU?

Hold tight, okay?
You too, mr toy
Eh?
I'd just come to hate taking walks
at high places. As if it was-


fun...
KYA AAAA!
TAP

Phew!
SERVES YOU RIGHT FOOLS! COME IF YOU CAN!
BEING CALLED MONSTER IS NOT JUST FOR SHOW!
I also come ahead
Pss Hhh!

ガッ
ガッ
It seems like...
Things will get
quite dangerous...

Oh
They're on it
Those lucky bastards of a team seem to have him cornered.
Well, that should end it.
That is, if he's human.
?

WHAT THE-?!

WHAT THE HELL IS THAT GUY?
...
You've been blocking the routes since before everything else so you should have gotten very familiar with that fellow.
But...
But I don't know your name yet...
Don't worry... I can get out of this somehow, thanks to what I've become.
But if you'd gone home like I told you, you wouldn't be in this mess, right?
Che ak
HEH HEH
Yeah, you're right.

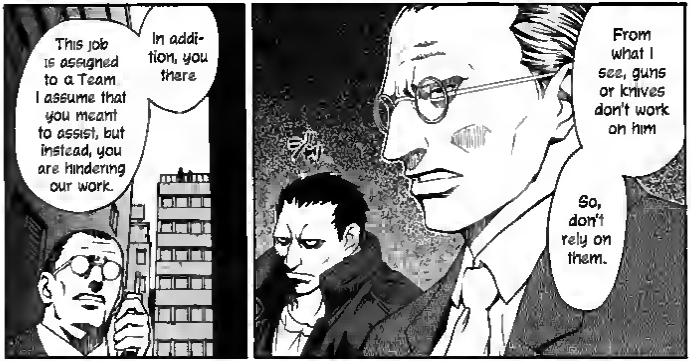
MY NAME'S SHIN.
SOUMA SHIN
HIDE IN THERE!
KYAA!

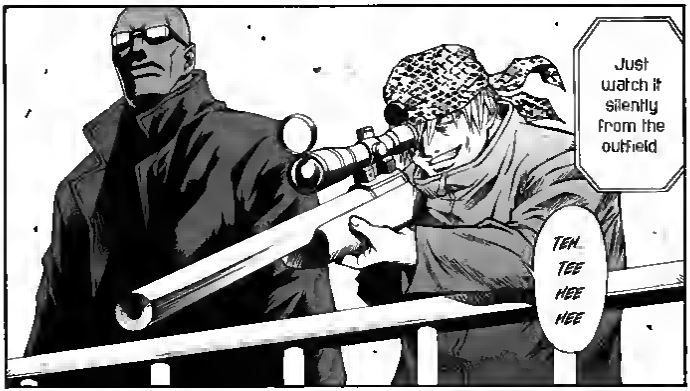
ゴオ
what
……
ガキッ

STARTLED

CRASH
WHOOPS

They weren't that naive after all
But now I know they don't want me dead.


In addition, you there
This job is assigned to a Team I assume that you meant to assist, but instead, you are hindering our work.
From what I see, guns or knives don't work on him
So, don't rely on them.


Just watch it silently from the outfield
TEH... TEE HEE HEE

SHIIIN
ドン
IT'S DANGEROUS IN HERE, SO STEP BACK!!
I'M OKAY!
He moves like a brawler, but suppressing that power will be troublesome.
Use the "Mousse."
CHA-CHINK

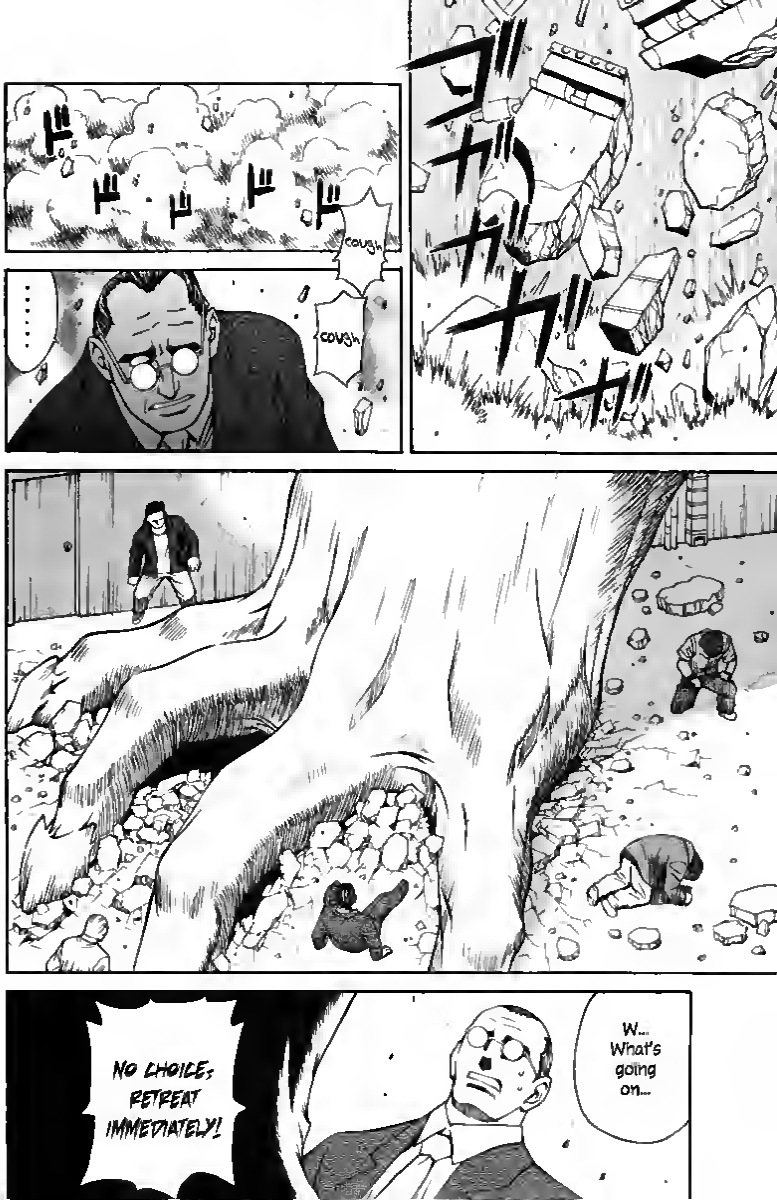
!?
SHIN! LOOK OUT!
Damn..! I've been either running away or fighting something since morning.
My body's giving it's expected answer!
WOO AAH !?

WHAT THE HELL?!
exp-ands
ARGH
...YOU JERK!
This is the new trend- non-lethal weapons. It's interesting, isn't it?
At an impact, carbon-dioxide evaporates instantly and expands the foam with high molecular compound hence the insurgent is captured.
DON'T MESS WITH ME!
BANG
DO YOU TAKE ME FOR A COCK-ROACH?
OOO-AAH ...?!
フゥウウ

Plea-
se...
Some-
body...
It can even capture giants, and only a specific chemical can dissolve it
FUCK. THE HELL IS THIS?!
Save us...
Save us...
Anyway, it seems like the close range combat specialist a team took the enemy down...
Aww man, he got caught

What did you say!?
Is it perh-aps..

ズーン


ゴガガガガ
ドドドドドド
cough
cough
……
W... What's going on...
NO CHOICE, RETREAT IMMEDIATELY!

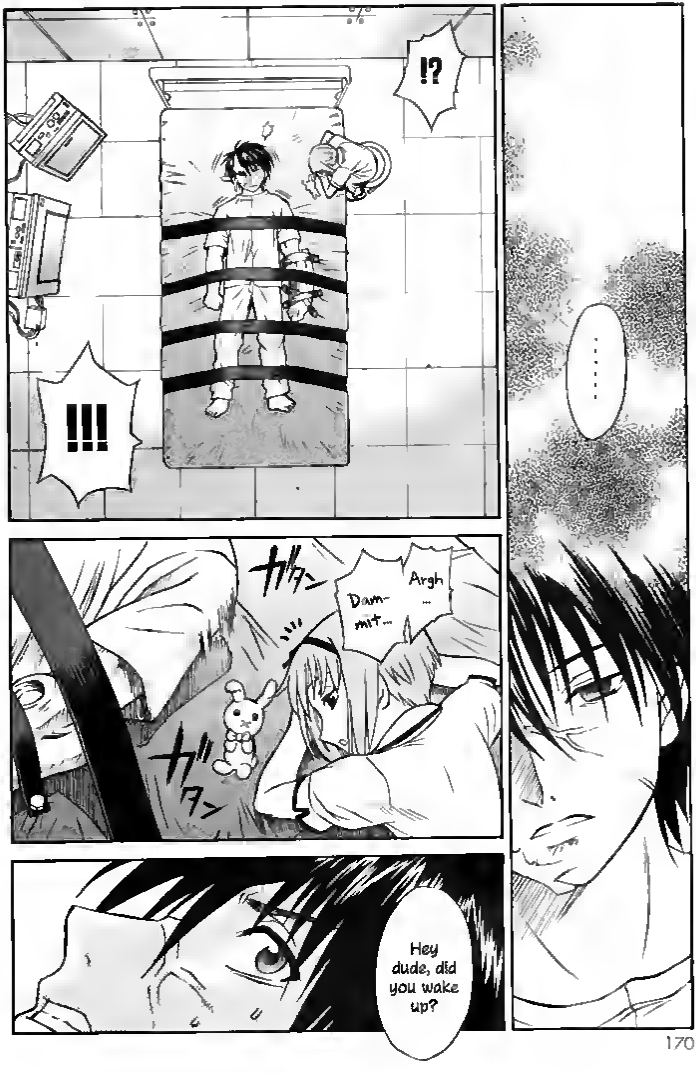
ゴフッ
HAH
HAHA HA...

SHIN
.....
Are you okay?

...I see
You... Summoned the Arethusa
ズズン
ゴルン
ズズン
... Sorry ...
I'm just a little tired.
ズズン
ズズン
I don't care what happens anymore...
Yaaa

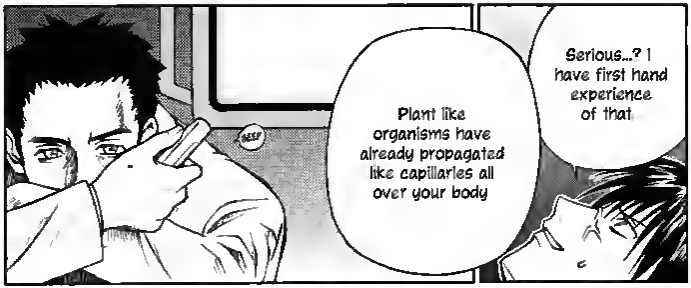
Groan
zzz zzz
.....
zzz.
SHIN...
Dooo—n
We're going back.
It was just about to get interesting...
Why dude, why not hit that monster with your missiles?

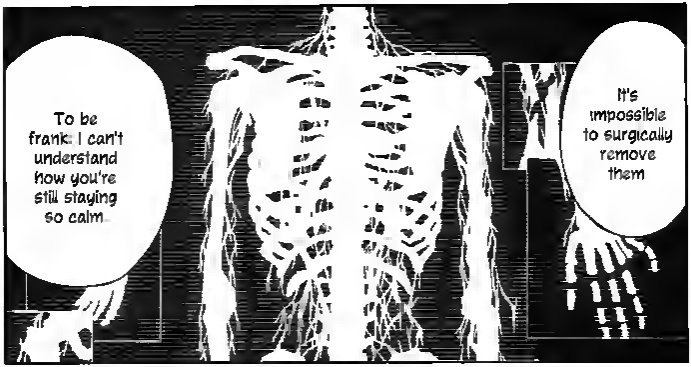
Hey.
The test subjects are likely to appear soon.
What are you talking about?
If you don't provide information about the topic and proceedings of your experiment, we can't share the pleasure of seeing the results.
It's still confidential.


!?
!!!
.....
Argh...
Dam-mit...
ガタン
ガタン
Hey dude, did you wake up?

HEEY!! WHO THE HELL ARE YOU!?
You see
That's why I said that it'd be alright
Who are you?
Is what I meant
Wha- who th-
Exc- use me
Aaaah.. Emm..
?
.....
I checked you out while you were asleep
I am Edward Law I research various topics of medical treatment for the military
Anyway, just think that I of me as a military physician.
NO SMOKIN
Ah that was disrespectful.
Now I feel ashamed... Sorry.

Um.
Or rather, after mixing the release agent.
And please forgive me for keeping you restrained. If you go wild, it'll cause lots of problems for us
Now I remembered. These restraints reminded me that, your hand got burned by "the mousse"
WHAT'S THE AMERICAN ARMY PLANNING TO DO WITH ME?!
Hmph.
It seems like you didn't understand how serious this matter is
I'll explain this as clearly as I can

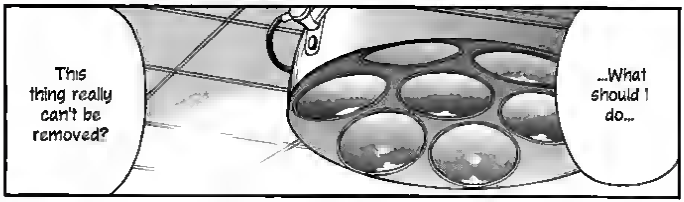

Serious...? I have first hand experience of that
Plant like organisms have already propagated like capillaries all over your body
SSSF


It's impossible to surgically remove them
To be frank: I can't understand how you're still staying so calm

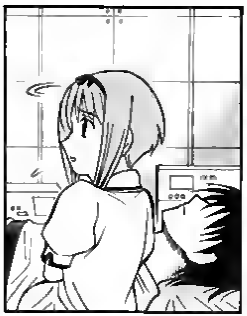
In the case of your arm, blood no longer flows through its muscles or bones.
Do you feel any pain?

...Seems like it.
Strangely, I see no signs of a strong negative reaction
ガヲン
I wonder if the plant cells release a pain killer
Or if they internally induce hallucinations.
Maybe a combination of both methods
However,
I don't think the situation will stay like this forever...
Because even as we speak, the plants within you continue to grow

That is a miraculous mutualism between man and plant... It is impossible to forecast
What happens when the balance is destroyed - only one thing can be said for certain
THAT IS, THE HUMAN BEING -YOU- WILL GO THROUGH A FATAL SITUATION VERY SOON.


...What should I do...
This thing really can't be removed?

Unfortu-nately..
A bullet hit you at the abdomen, right? Based on that scar, that bullet is supposed to be trapped inside
But currently, there are no bullets left in your body.



The plants inside your body must've ejected it... Isn't it so?
It's the same with a scalpel
For that reason, an operation is impossible
To begin with, just the time it will take to remove something that has grown through your body so evenly would be formidable..
Actually, rest is vital. We can only run more tests
...Even in that case, you won't livea long life.
Well, at most one year.

HEY...
W... WHAT DID YOU SAY!?

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Credits

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QC: Claudia, Psy

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ガ
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ガ
Outskirts of New York, Queens, temporary facility of US Army.
ガチャン

SHOW YOUR-SELF!
Turn around.
What are you doing...?
...?
HEY!! YOU HEAR ME?!

I'm kinda busy right now.
What do you want?

SCRATCH
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
Man.. This is pissin' me off..
I'm shavin' it off.
This bugs me, so...
CLATTER
S-STOP THAT! THE HELL'S WRONG WITH YOU?!

You hung out with a useless bunch in Japan, and probably committed some misdemeanors while you were at it, right?
Hmph... I'm not sure about that...
He said that this guy is not a criminal, so...
No, it was Dr. Law that handed it to him..
WHY IS HE ALLOWED TO CARRY A KNIFE?!
Liar.
-Ai kyanto supiku inguris-shu-
Some organizations try to take advantage of the plants transgressing into cities, constantly destroying them Am I supposed to just sit back and let that happen? Hell no.
I don't care what they think of me; I did all of that to stay alive

I guess you forgot what you used to do before joining the army eh...? Mister
Captain Neil Pryce
And this place is not a police station. I have the authority to classify you as a spy and deal with you accordingly
Right now, my questions are about you.
How many men have you killed so far?
As expected You're stronger than a typical Japanese Yakuza, Captain..

You've got guts...

That's because I was accidentally given a body that's hard to kill.
If I get out, I'll knock you down real good

Well whatever... By the way, there's an issue about your statement regarding Souma Ken.
Who happens to be your brother...
We've heard there's no one by that name at Megalith Industries

What?
.....
W-WHAT IS THIS BULLSHIT!!
SOMEONE MADE A MISTAKE, RIGHT?!
We have a lot of questions and doubts, therefore, from now on we'll keep an eye on you.

Follow me.

And Dr. Law said he'll come here when he's done.
We were finally able to get in touch with your older brother. It looks like he will come pick you up soon.
Please don't worry so much.

Thank you...
.....
.....
Dr Law,
I looked at your report and sent it to my superiors
I'm curious about the person in question.
So, what's your opinion?
Airight...

Were already corpses..
Every single sample I came across in the past...
Actually, there were a lot of problems. Finding him in his current condition was a bitter fate for both him and for us.
This was actually quite surprising. The parts of his body that were turning into a tree were connected and working with both his nervous and circulatory systems
Yet this one's right arm, which had nearly been torn off, seems to be functional.
.....
It's almost like.. the plants help him stay alive
Right..
However... the plants may've spread throughout bodies of the samples and used them as nutrients, which eventually lead to their deaths.

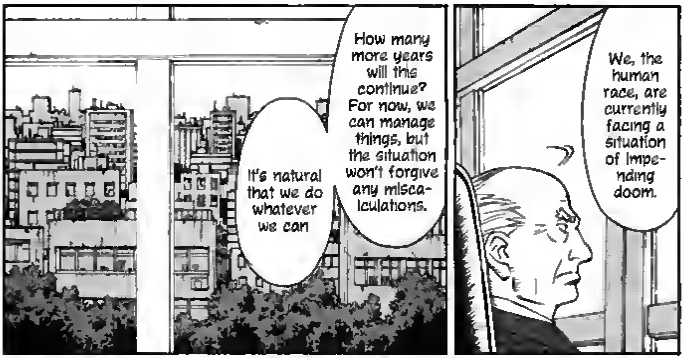
Is there any risk of infection...?
That is very unlikely
Or, saying "no" would be simpler
I see..
But there is still the issue of his brother, Souma Ken, the man that's mentioned in his testimony...
It appears that he's not enrolled at Megalith Industries
He was dismissed three months ago. At the moment, there is no way of contacting him.
THAT'S NONSENSE! THERE IS NO WAY THAT MEGALITH INDUSTRIES WOULD PART WITH SUCH A TALENTED MAN!

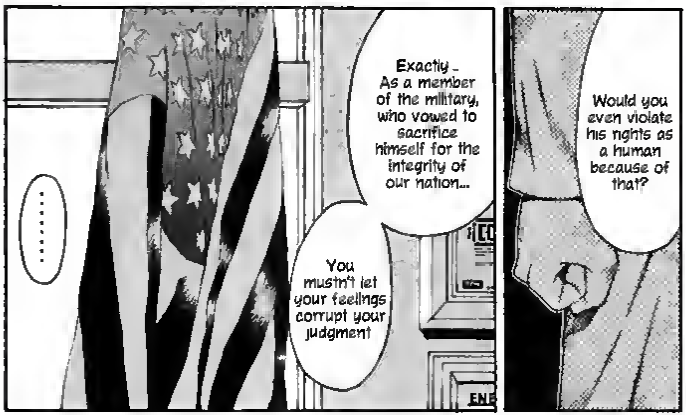
Reporting. treatments to the sample were performed as ordered.
knock knock
Come in
About a year ago, at the academic meeting...
He should at least have some acquaintances, right?
Hm.. Those were probably fake documents I guess...
What did you do to him?
.....
Yes sir, there were no problems
I hope nobody noticed you.
I guess we should talk about the possibility of him being a spy
.....

HE IS AN INFECTED PATIENT!
I attached an "implant", as an anti spy measurement
YOU CAN EVEN CALL HIM A VICTIM!
CAN'T YOU SEE THAT HE ISN'T A SPY?!
Doctor, listen...
If he, the one infected by the plants, all of a sudden kills people, even if it wasn't intentional, what will we do?
BUT...!
I know that! But that waw the higher ups' decision!

He was seen at both locations right after the monsters called "Arethusa" appeared.
This is not something that we can consider as pure coinci-dence
There was also a mysterious armed group chasing him.
There are more than enough reasons about him and what follows him to make us uneasy.
In addition, it seems to me that he is somewhat related to the monsters that destroyed NY and the army research center.
Furthermore, is there any guarantee saying that it won't happen?

Am I wrong, doctor?
Naturally, we, the US Army, are supposed to control him and manage the crisis
That's why we can't leave that much power unattended


It's natural that we do whatever we can
How many more years will this continue? For now, we can manage things, but the situation won't forgive any miscalculations.
We, the human race, are currently facing a situation of impending doom.


Exactly - As a member of the military, who vowed to sacrifice himself for the integrity of our nation...
You mustn't let your feelings corrupt your judgment
Would you even violate his rights as a human because of that?

Huh? I remember you saying that this infection was incurable..
No matter what it is, I hate hiding such things. But, nothing has been decided yet
Yeah
But Doctor, why'd you tell him that he's dying?
Thanks to you, dealing with him makes me really bitter..
Regarding lack of treatment methods, that's true until something is discovered...
But I haven't given up yet
Probably.. neither has he.

But man, this is definitely a human worm..
It's probably because of the sun..
My strength is returning..
But still.. What was Ken thinking when he...
I can make shitloads of money if I sell this as a rare traditional Chinese medicine
402

ド
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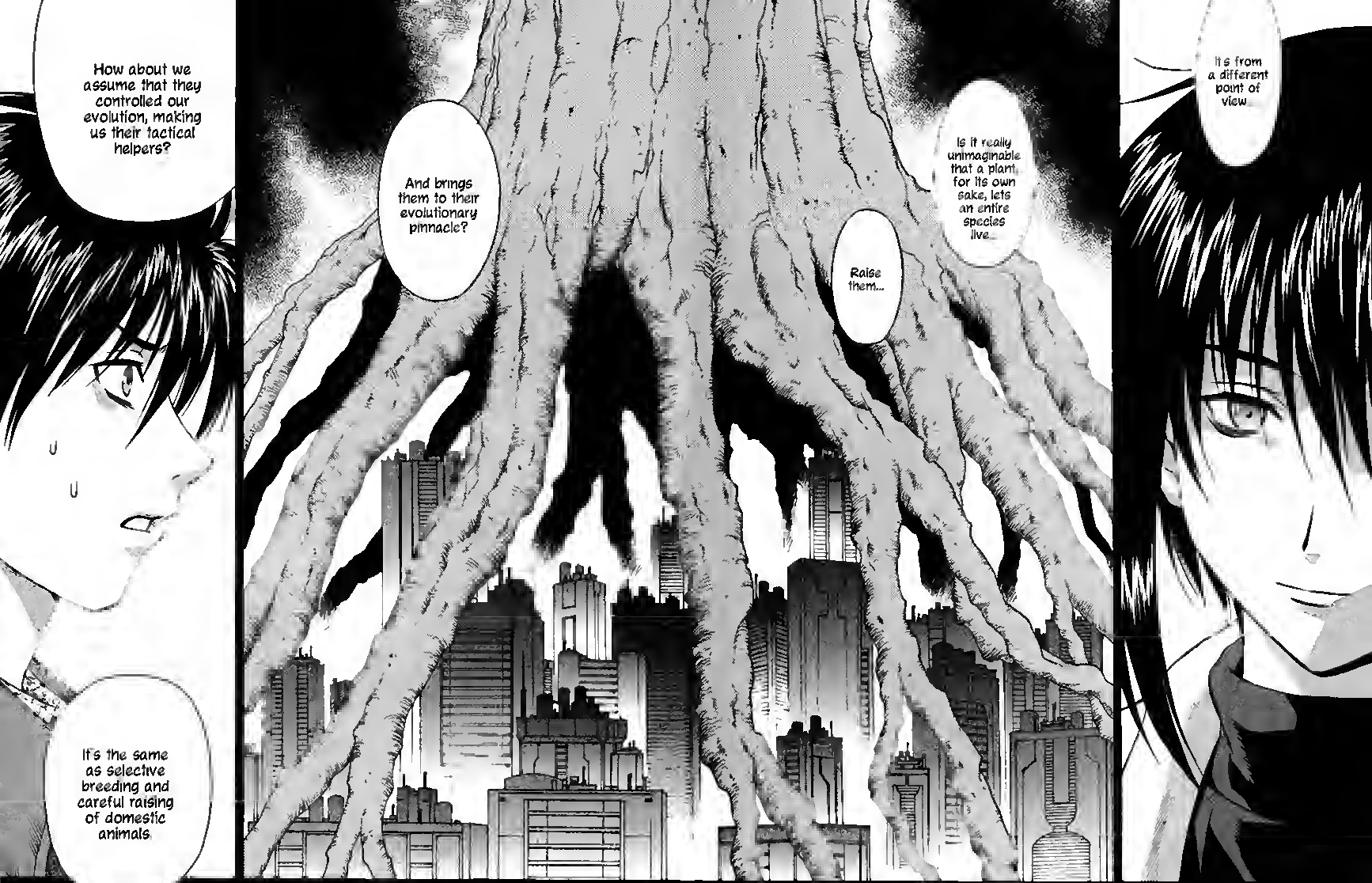
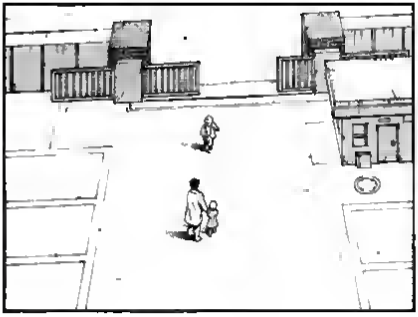
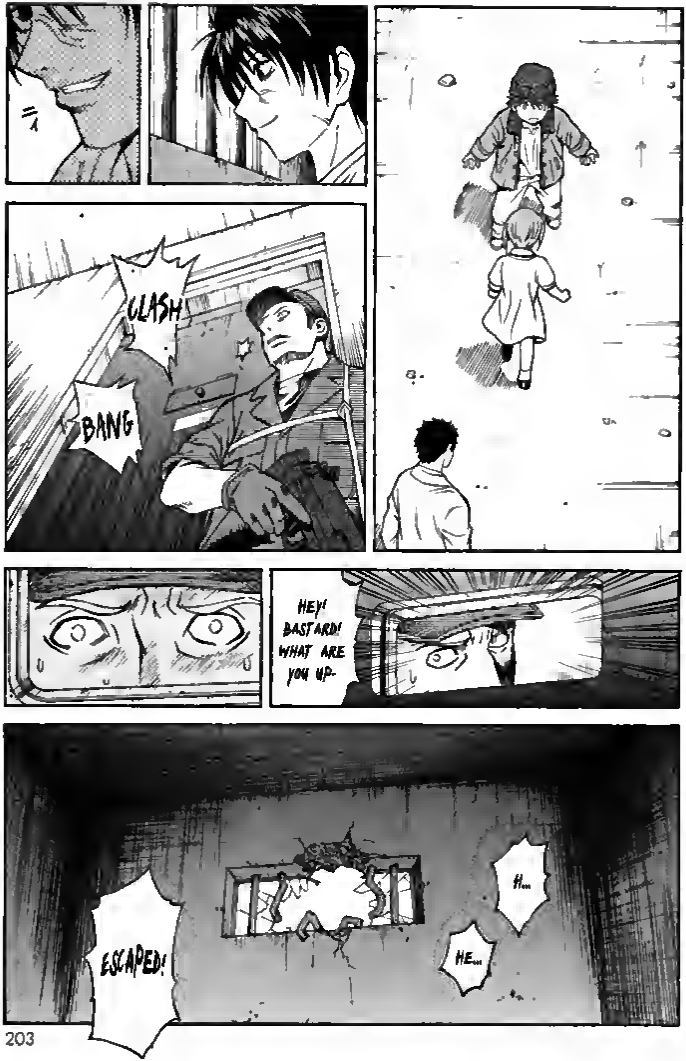
Thinking of plants as the bottom level of food chain is a misconception that humans have, right?
ドドドドド
Actually the top of the food chain may belong to the plants,
not human beings...
What nonsense are you sprouting...?
ズズズ!


How about we assume that they controlled our evolution, making us their tactical helpers?
U
U
It's the same as selective breeding and careful raising of domestic animals
And brings them to their evolutionary pinnacle?
Raise them...
Is it really unimaginable that a plant, for its own sake, lets an entire species live...
It's from a different point of view...

I wonder...

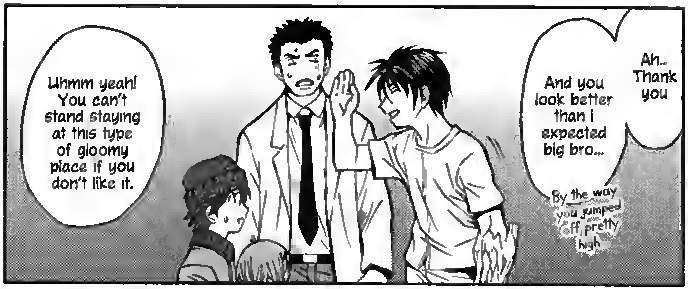
Was the key to solving the mystery behind this body mentioned in those words...?
What was he trying to say back then...?




CLASH
BANG
HEY! BASTARD! WHAT ARE YOU UP-
ESCAPED!
H...
HE...

Look at how much you've grown
Oh my god... Dina! It's really you!
ONII-CHAN!
I kinda heard what happened.. Thank god you're alright!
And..? How about the other big bro?
H...
.....
Hey... Say something...
He's just a little sick right?!

I want to thank that big bro properly
Yo—
It's good to see a brother and sister's long awaited reunion


Ah.. Thank you
And you look better than I expected big bro...
By the way you jumped off pretty high
Uhmm yeah! You can't stand staying at this type of gloomy place if you don't like it.

But still .. Y.. You seem to be in a pretty rough situation...!?
Yeah, you mean this..? Look, it ruined my good looks.
By the way, Dina.

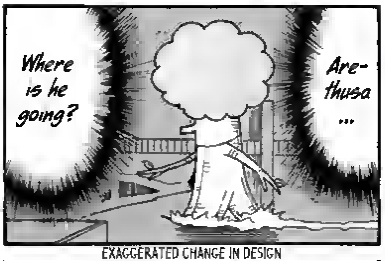
Can you tell me..
Where that monster went?

HOLY SHIT!
Ah, that's because of me
I broke out of jail
W...
WHAT'S GOING ON?!
WAIT! DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND THAT YOUR CONDITION CAN GET WORSE AT ANY MOMENT?!
HEY!
SHADDAP AND DO WHAT I SAY! DINA, YOU GET ON AS WELL.
Motorbike... but what about a driver's license...? Hell, can you even ride it properly with that midget body?!
O... OKAY! FOLLOW ME! I LEFT MY MOTORBIKE OVER THERE. IF YOU'RE RUNNING AWAY, THEN HURRY!
SORRY, BUT I DECIDED TO FIND THE WAY TO LIVE LONGER ON MY OWN, RATHER THAN SILENTLY WAITING FOR THIS SHORT LIFE TO COME TO ITS END!
EVEN IF I GIVE UP SEARCHING FOR MY BROTHER, I'LL RESTORE MY BODY FOR SURE!!

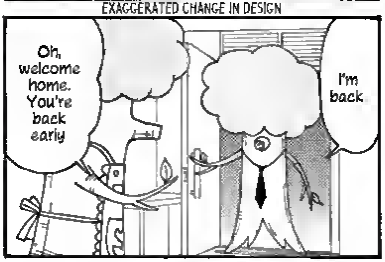
LATER!
AND THANKS DOC!

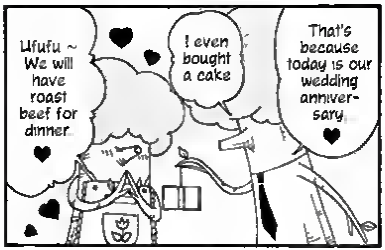
COME BACK!! YOU MUST'N'T LEAVE!!
YOU'RE...
BEING TRACKED BY A SMALL SCALE TRANSMIT-TER...

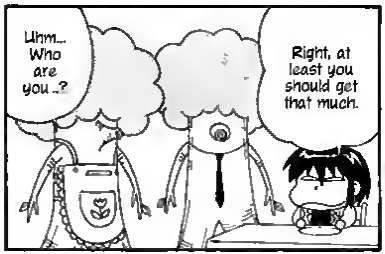
THE VEHI-CLES!
BLOCK THE EAST ROUTE!
GET TO THE VEHICLES!
He's right.
No...
I have to save him...!
There must be something I can do...!



EXAGGERATED CHANGE IN DESIGN







Instead, who are you two?

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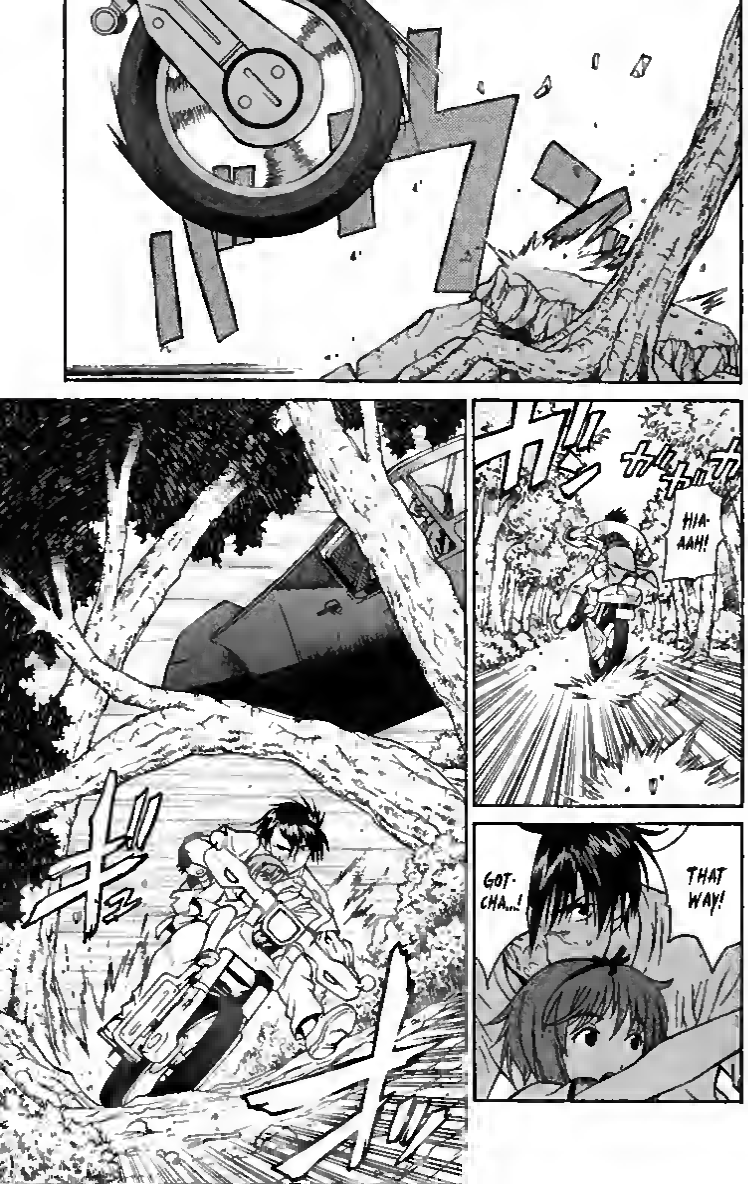
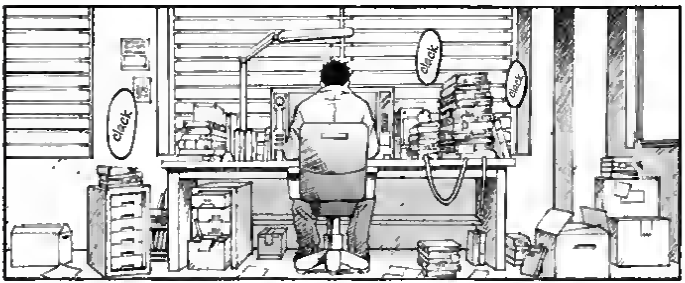
THEY'RE STILL ON OUR TAIL! PLEASE BRO, GO FASTER!
ARE YOU BAD AT RIDING BIKES?!
HELL NO, I'M NOT!
THIS IS HAPPENING BECAUSE THE LENGTH OF ONE OF MY ARMS CHANGED!
MAN THIS IS HARD... WHENEVER I CHECK SOMETHING ELSE, THIS THING STEERS TO THE RIGHT.
WHATEVER, JUST SPEED UP!
ゴゴ

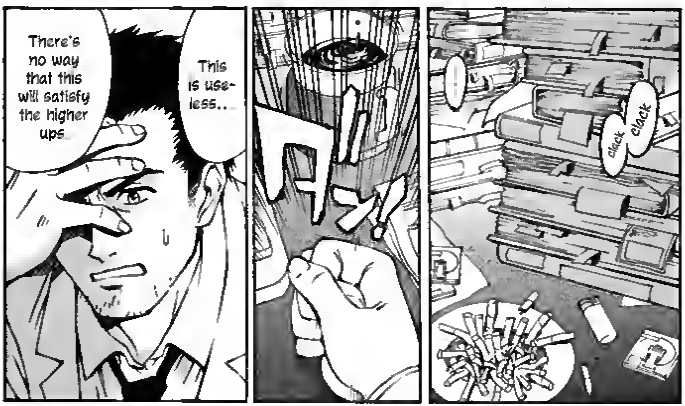
ドドド


HIA-AAH!
GOT-CHA...!
THAT WAY!

ゴオッ
ドドドド
ゴギギギ
62
ハーフ・ハーフ・ハーフ…
ドドドド
I DON'T THINK THAT'S THE CASE.
THEY CAN'T FOLLOW US IN HERE!
OW OW OW OW OW OW OW!

THEY CAN'T EVEN SEE ME, YET THEY KEEP ON FOLLOWING ME.
HOW THE HELL?!
GIMME A BREAK...!

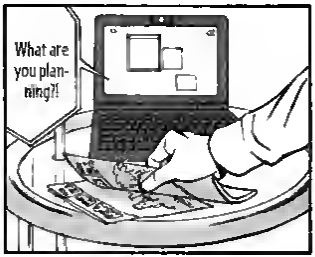

click
click
click

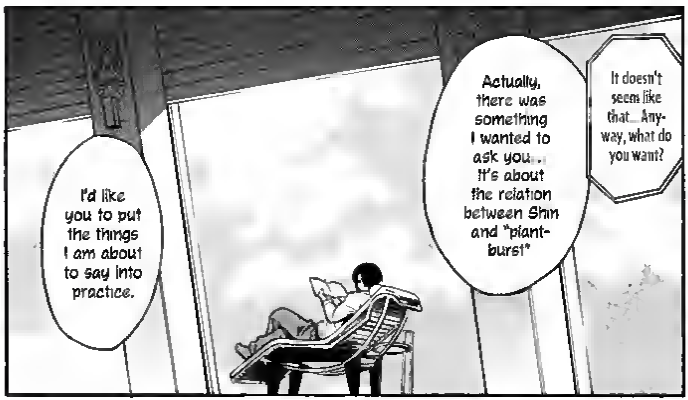

There's no way that this will satisfy the higher ups.
This is use-less...
ウン!
click click

Who is it at this hour.
I need to satisfy them
And figure out something to save Shin at the same time...
(Beep!)
WHERE ARE YOU AND WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
YOU!
WHY DID YOU DO THAT TO YOUR BROTHER?!

You asked too many questions at once.
But I can't answer all of them yet
Well, it's been a while...

I wasted a lot of time making preparations, so I'm in a bit of a hurry as well.
Save your questions for next time


What are you planning?!


I'd like you to put the things I am about to say into practice.
Actually, there was something I wanted to ask you... It's about the relation between Shin and "plant-burst"
It doesn't seem like that... Anyway, what do you want?

What on earth...
Are you trying to research...?!

He's very lucky... Anyway, later.
And, one last thing
I'm glad that Shin's physician was you, Dr Law
It's still too unstable.
As I said, it's not settled, and I can't give an answer yet
Sir, what are you doing?
I'm packing things to relocate.
Can you help me squeeze them? I'm not good at packing these things.

The army's dogs are sniffing around, so I'll have to stay out of New York for a while
It's only natural, since the president only told me recently
Excuse me sir, but my duty is not handling odd jobs...
Hmm-girl.. Huh?
It's no use
Besides, I wasn't informed about this
Okay then, let's go there
Yes.. Needless to say, we have one there.
Do we have a branch office at Brazil?
Well... Maybe I should go somewhere warm, so I can relax at the same time
Where are you planning to go then?
ゴウン
Hmm... Well, whatever
Even if I put these separately, they will dispose everything I leave behind anyway.
.....

How about it? We could go swimming together.
You'll come with me, right, Carey?
Lots of things... Like how you'd look in bikinis.
Sir, what's on your mind?

Why did you do that to your biological brother?
That again?!
He was on the verge of death. I had no other way to save him.
Is this all of your luggage?
I don't need a guard You too, hava lots of other things to do, right?
May I ask a question?
Okay, but keep it short
Ah, I thought that he was one of your human test subjects.
Well now you know Anyway, I'm off
To the branch office in Brazil.
Ok
Have a safe trip....

MEGALITH

I wonder if it was the plants, rather than the serpent*
that granted the apple to human beings
It's unusual to hear you talk about religious things related to Christianity
Religious?
No way
I'm talking based on scientific assumptions

*T/N The serpent is the reason Eve took the apple from the tree of knowledge

This area is completely invaded by plants.
Well, come on.
Won't this place... Collapse on us..?

You somehow shook them off, big bro.
Nah, it looks like they just gave up chasing us.

What about essentials?
No water supplies, no electricity
Sewer lines are somehow connected.
We get water from the water well or the river. The church gives some food...
and the rest somehow comes... You know what I mean...
Right... But as long as you two are together...
I'm glad that taking Dina from Megalith to her brother's wasn't a bad idea...

O-kay
Dina, where is...
That fella called Arethusa?

Shin, if I tell you where it is, you will go by yourself, right?
Eh? Well... I...
THEN I WON'T TELL!

Hey hey, Dina..
I WON'T TELL!
I can't babysit when my hands are full with my own shit...

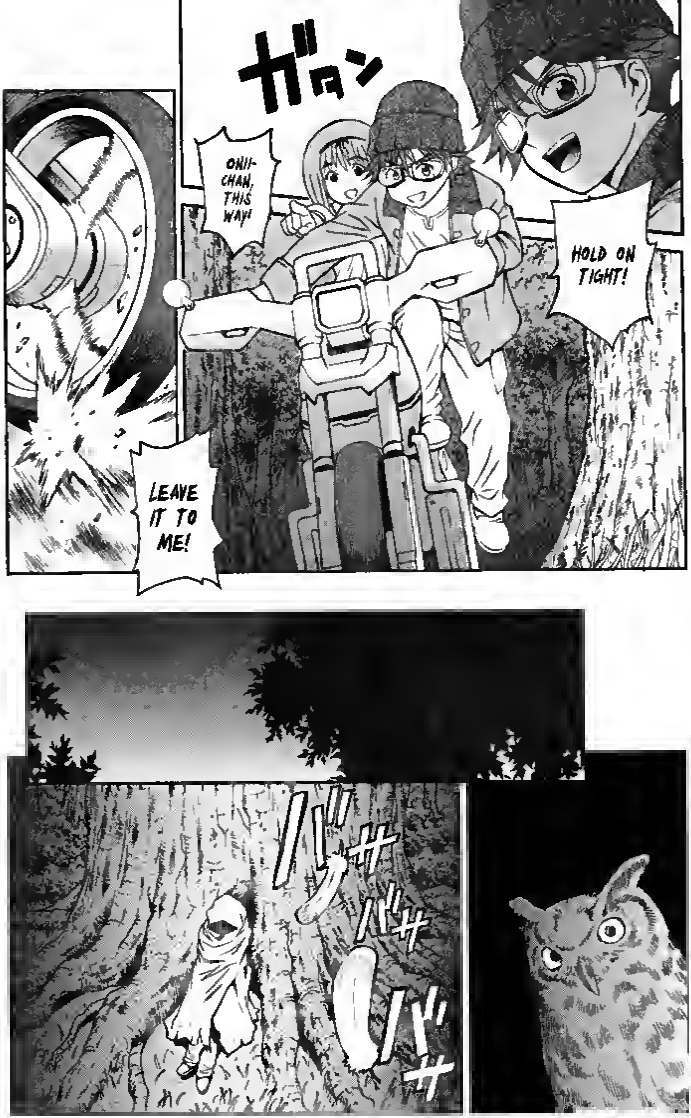
Oh no.
I mean...
Now that you pissed her off, let's see what you're gonna do...
tsk tsk
?
What's wrong?
.....
?
Nothing...
By the way, big bro, since you can ride the bike, take us too
That hybrid bike was stolen, right...?
It belongs to me now! Don't bother with the details!

GIMME A BREAK! WE ARE PARTIALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CHANGES IN YOUR BODY!
Either way, that's no good.
I don't want to involve you guys in this shit any further

SNAP-SNAP--SNAP-SNAP
Okay, got it.....
I DON'T KNOW WHAT WE CAN DO TO HELP, BUT LET US HELP YOU WITH WHATEVER YOU MAY FACE!
IN ANY CASE, STAYING HERE WON'T DO US ANY GOOD EITHER!

I don't know why, but I want to deal with the rest on my own
Thanks for everything.
Later!
I'm just going to borrow this then.
BIG BRO!

DINA, HURRY!
WE'LL CHASE HIM!
ワイ
ONII-CHAN!


ガタン
ONII-CHAN, THIS WAY!
HOLD ON TIGHT!
LEAVE IT TO ME!
バサバサ
バサ

...n!
Shin...!
Shin, can you hear me?!
IS THAT YOU, DOCTOR ...?!
Yeah.
ガバッ
!!?
The sound from the transmitter injected in your body should be vibrating through your bones to make it audible... Besides, your voice is received clearly
A TRANS-MITTER IN MY BODY? HOW ON EARTH COULD YOU..
It's the same thing as your wood. It's made from materials with high compatibility

Listen, it's not just a simple transmitter.
It's also an explosive. The switch for it is located here.

MOTHER-FUCKER!
Calm down, it's not like I did..
EVEN AT THE BEST OF TIMES, YOU STICK THAT FUCKIN' THING TO A TOTALLY CORNERED MAN! IS THIS HOW INHUMAN YOU CAN BE!?
DON'T FUCK WITH ME YOU SON OF A BITCH! AFTER ALL, YOU'RE ONE OF THOSE BRUTES!!

WHA...
It may be small scale, and its explosive power may be weak due to its custom explosive shell
But it has enough power to rip your head off.

HEY, BRAT!
DO YOU KNOW WHAT THE DOCTOR HAD TO GO THROUGH JUST TO BE ABLE TO START THE PROJECT, JUST TO SAVE YOU AS SOON AS POSSIBLE?!
Uhm... Captain?
IN THIS SITUATION, YOU CAN TELL WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF THE RULES WERE NOT FOLLOWED CORRECTLY, DON'T YOU?!
DR. LAW'S WORDS WERE UNPLEASANT, I GIVE YOU CREDIT FOR THAT, BUT
IF YOU DON'T FOLLOW OUR ORDERS, YOU WILL DIE, AND THEN DR. LAW WILL BE HELD RESPONSIBLE AND BE DISCHARGED FROM THE MILITARY.

You don't have the rights to decide. Or would you prefer living like an irresponsible kid and wait for your death?
Hey... Wait a second! Who are you...?
This is bullshit
And especially for that reason, the US army will provide you with back-up
Fair enough... Then from now on, please follow my, Sarah Field's, instructions
Okay I got it..
UWAH!
I CAN HEAR YOU!
Anyone that may take my place will have the same skills, so behave accordingly
Being proficient in Japanese is one of the prerequisites for main project operations

Well, sorry
CAPTAIN! YOU TALK TOO MUCH
In addition, every second of your conversation is recorded, so be careful
From the time I broke out until now What else did they hear?
Hey, wait a second...!
That bastard hates it too.. I'm glad that he told that annoying thing off
You are threatening me by controlling whether I live or die, and forcing me to do this..
If you ever leak confidential information, prepare yourself for the consequences.
Which are unknown to even citizens of America.
The things that I'm about to tell you are top secret.

The monsters that you call "Arethasa" appeared at various locations throughout America
What the... Fuck!
Because of this we decided to use all of our resources to try to stop this disaster

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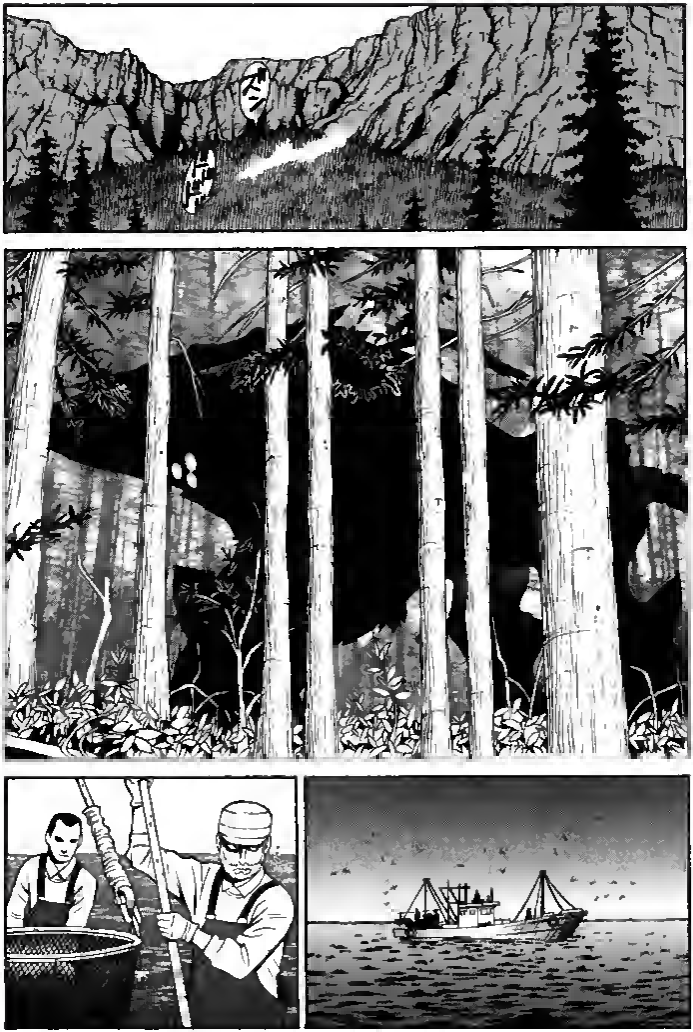
ゴゴゴ
ドーン!!



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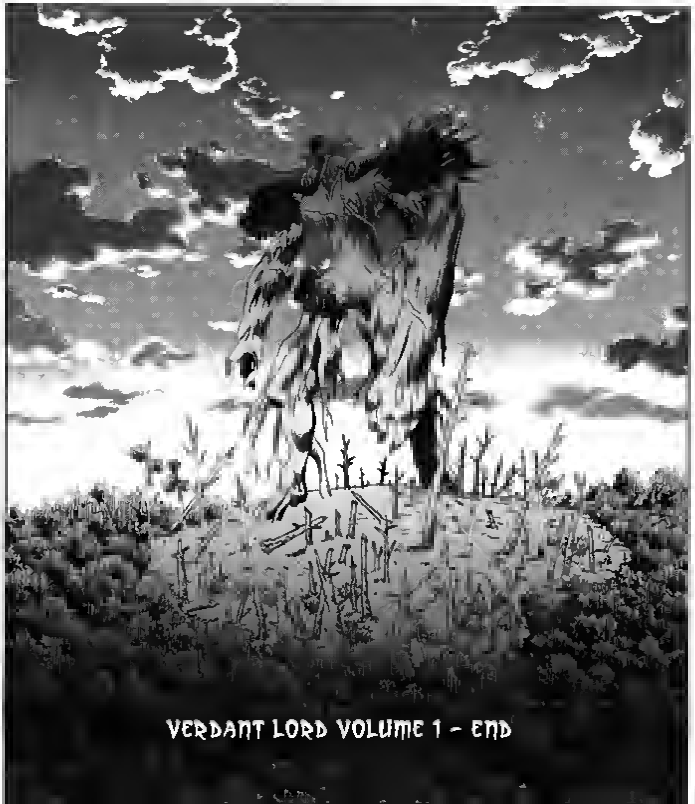
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Artwork from the manga Tripeace
Colored by: Perky
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